賭博堕天録 カイジ 3 和也編

福本伸行

中途半端に意思が繋がること
ある意味、これが一番恐ろしいんだよ！
一筋縄じゃねえっ！
理解は！心は！人間は！

Designed by FUJIO KAKEGAWA
Illustrations for "Paradise Lost" by Gustave Doré

1903
ヤンマガKC
賭博堕天録 カイジ 和也編 3
福本伸行
講談社

9784063619034

1929979005528

雑誌 42538-03

ISBN978-4-06-361903-4

C9979 ¥552E (0)

講談社／定価：本体552円（税別）

迷ったよ、僕は……！
でも……！でも……！
でも、僕は掴んだ！
あるかないか
わからない未来を……！

中途半端に意思が繋がること
ある意味、これが一番恐ろしいんだよ！
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Illustration for "Fukumoto Log" by Gushiken Lara

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迷ったよ、僕は……！
でも……！でも……！
でも、僕は掴んだ！
あるかないか
わからない未来を……！

KAIJI

賭博堕天録 カイジ 3 和也編

福本伸行

Unlesscheeky

賭博堕天録
カイジ
和也編
福本伸行
3

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STOP!!
STOP!
STOP!
STOP IT!!!
CHAPTER 21
"INTENT"
第21話
「意思」

STOP!!
DON'T DO IT, CHANG!!
IF YOU PRESS THAT...
IT'S ALL OVER!

IT'LL ALL BE OVER!
CHANG!!
CHANG!!
3

KAIJI...
GH!
ズ"
ガ
CHA-
DOES EVERY-THING HE CAN...
TO POINT OUT THIS MIS-TAKE...
BUT THE LOUD MUSIC BEING PLAYED IN THE PLAYERS' HELMETS...
KEEPS HIS VOICE...
FROM REACH-ING...
CHANG, OR THE OTHER TWO!
AND SO...

HE WILL PRESS IT!
PRESS IT!
PRESS IT!
PRESS IT!

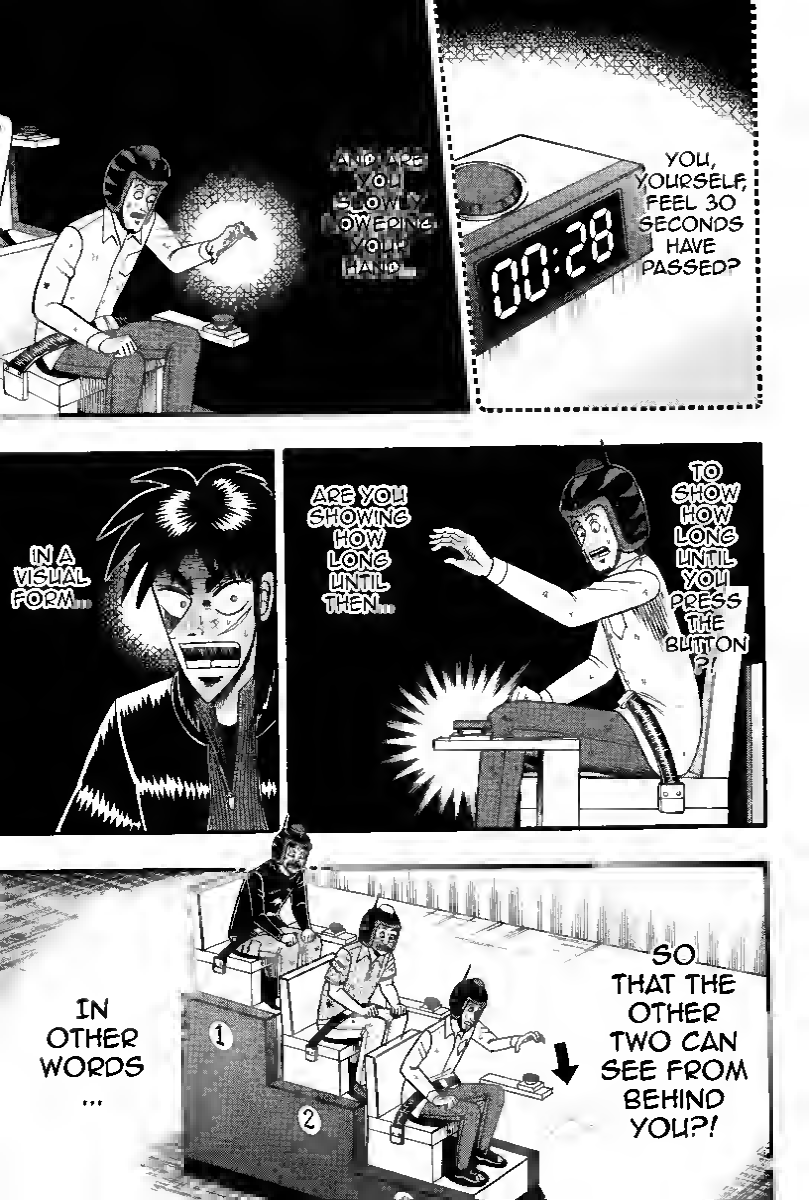
THE SEAT-RELEASE BUTTON ONLY WORKS FOR THE FIRST PERSON TO PRESS THEIRS...
MEAN-ING...
AND IF HE DOES PRESS IT...
TO PRESS IT!
EVEN NOW, HE IS ABOUT...
THE OTHERS WILL NOT BE SAVED!
IF CHANG, A HOSTAGE WERE TO LEAVE HIS SEAT...
Hostage
Savior
Hostage
GAUGH!
THIS IS A MIS-TAKE!
THE TWO HOS-TAGES WILL DIE!
Hostage
Hostage

GYA-
AAA-
UUU-
UGH!
A DECI-
SIVE!
FATAL!
DEVA-
STAT-
ING!
AND
HELL-
ISH
MIS-
TAKE!
AND
IT
IS...
IMMI-
NENT!
IMME-
DIATE!

THAT IS HOW IT LOOKS!
CHANG'S MOVE-MENT COULD SUGGEST NOTHING ELSE!
BUT ...!
HUH ?
BUT IT SEEMS ...
THAT ISN'T QUITE RIGHT!
WHAT ...?
CHANG RAISED HIS HAND, THIS IS TRUE.
BUT THEN ...
HE STOP-PED
NO, TO BE MORE ACCU-RATE...
. . . . . .
HE DID NOT MER-ELY STOP!

HE IS LOWER-ING IT!
THE LEFT HAND THAT HE HAS RAISED..
IS VERY, VERY GRADUALLY BEING LOWERED!
WELL, WOULD'JA LOOK AT THAT!
PHEH-HEH-HEH..
HAH ....!
THEY CAN SHOW SOME SMARTS.
GUESS THEY'RE NOT TOTAL IDIOTS.
THIS BE...
COULD...
COULD THIS...
AT LEAST, WHEN THEIR LIVES ARE ON THE LINE...

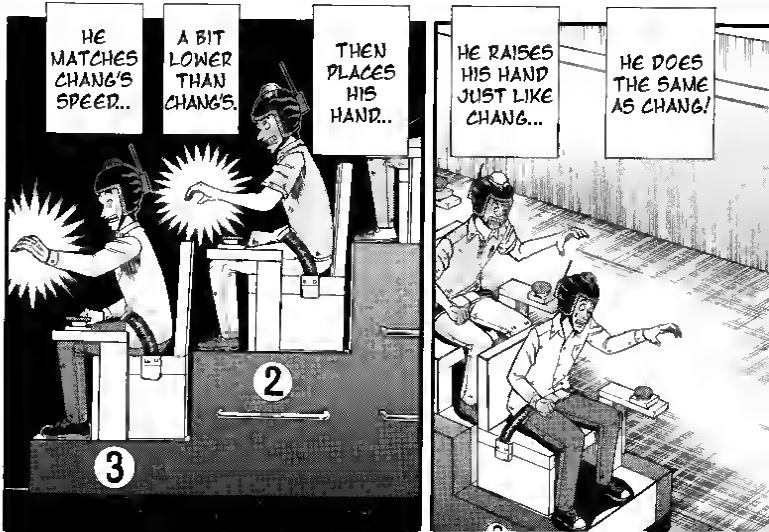
A-SIGN?!
IS THIS A SIGN, CHANG?!
DID YOU RAISE YOUR HAND...
TO SAY THAT...


AND ARE YOU SLOWLY SWEEPING YOUR HAND...
00:28
YOU, YOURSELF, FEEL 30 SECONDS HAVE PASSED?
IN A VISUAL FORM...
ARE YOU SHOWING HOW LONG UNTIL THEN...
TO SHOW HOW LONG UNTIL YOU PRESS THE BUTTON?!
IN OTHER WORDS ...
1
2
SO THAT THE OTHER TWO CAN SEE FROM BEHIND YOU?!

SO IF THE SAVIOR IS ABOVE YOU...
YOU'RE SAYING YOU WILL PRESS IT AFTER THIS LONG!
1
2
3
BEFORE YOUR HAND REACHES THE BOTTOM OF ITS PATH...
THEY NEED TO PRESS THE BUTTON...

SEEING CHANG'S ACTION...
AHH ...!
THAT KIND OF SIGN!!
AND PRESSES THE BUTTON!
HE REACTS!

MITSUYAMA ON THE 2ND LEVEL...
WORKS WITH HIM!
1
AHH!


HE DOES THE SAME AS CHANG!
HE RAISES HIS HAND JUST LIKE CHANG...
THEN PLACES HIS HAND...
A BIT LOWER THAN CHANG'S.
HE MATCHES CHANG'S SPEED...
2
3

WHILE LOWERING HIS HAND!
MITSUYAMA'S ADDITION IMPROVES THE PROCESS.
FROM HIS PERSPECTIVE...
CHANG IS A HOSTAGE.
HE CANNOT LET CHANG PRESS THE BUTTON.
IF CHANG WILL PRESS IT, HE HAS TO PRESS IT AN INSTANT BEFOREHAND
HE IS LETTING...
MARIO IN SEAT 1 KNOW HIS INTENT!

THE THREE OF THEM WERE SCAT-TERED...
BUT NOW THEY ARE LINKED!
FROM THE BOTTOM TO THE TOP...
2
THEY CONVEY THEIR INTENT!
IF MARIO AT THE TOP IS THE SAVIOR...
HE WOULD HAVE NO CHOICE ...
BUT TO PRESS THE BUTTON ...
BEFORE MIT-SUYAMA DOES!

IF HE IS THE SAVIOR, HE WILL PRESS IT!
IF THE TIME COMES TO PRESS IT...
YET HE DOES NOT...
THEN MITSU-YAMA ...
ON THE SECOND LEVEL MUST BE THE SAVIOR!
IT BECOMES OBVIOUS!

THE THREE OF THEM HAVE MADE IT!!
AND WITHOUT ARRANGING ANYTHING AHEAD OF TIME...
IM-MEDI-ATE-LY...
THEY HAVE MADE IT!!
人質解放
AN EFFECTIVE SYSTEM!
THEY HAVE A SYSTEM TO SURVIVE THIS GAME!
OF REACH-ING A COMMON UNDER-STAND-ING!
A SYS-TEM ...
2
3

CLEAR
パッ
わっ..
THEY HAVE MADE IT!!

THE ASIAN THREE ...
HAVE COMPLETED THE THIRD ROUND.
THIS IS A TRULY, TRULY, TRULY VALUABLE COMPLETION!!
OH!!
WOAH!
CHAPTER 21 - FIN...
第21話 終

AN ALL-IM-POR-TANT VIC-TORY !!!

CHAPTER 22 "CONVERSATION"
第22話「会話」

THEIR EYES...
AND THEIR EXPRESSIONS CONVEY THEIR JOY!
IT IS A VOICELESS CONVERSATION!
I'LL DO IT, TOO!
IF I'M ON THE 2ND OR 3RD LEVEL, I'LL DO WHAT YOU DID!
THAT'S RIGHT!

IT IS AN OVER-WHELM-ING RE-SPONSE!
WE'LL BE UNSTOP-PABLE!
IF WE WORK TOGE-THER...
WE CAN WORK TOGE-THER!

CLEAR
THIS TIME, THEY HAVE GAINED..
YES!
CLEARING THIS ROUND HAS MORE MEANING THAN THE OTHERS!
THE THREE OF THEM FEEL THAT REASSUR-ING SEN-SATION.

A STRATEGY!!

THEY HAVE A METHOD!
13
TO THE END!
A MEANS OF COMPLETING THIS GAME...
14

BY USING WEAPONS!
HUMANS WOULD FACE THE BEASTS THEY COULD NOT HANDLE BARE-HANDED..
LONG AGO...

THESE THREE ...
THEY COULD FIGHT!
BY WIELDING SOMETHING LIKE A STONE AXE...

JUST BY RAISING THEIR HAND..
THEY CAN FIGHT!
WITHOUT A PLAN.
ARE NO LONGER WANDERING THROUGH THE DARKNESS...
BUT IT IS IMMENSELY EFFECTIVE!
IT IS A SIMPLE SIGNAL ...
IT COMPLETELY CHANGES THE SITUATION!
SLOWLY LOWERING IT.
AND THEN ...
THE THREE OF THEM HAVE BEEN FREED!
THEY ARE FREED!!

FREED FROM THE CAGES OF THEIR SENSES !!
THEY NO LONGER HAVE TO SEARCH FOR...
THE OTHERS' THOUGHTS AND SENSES WITH THEIR OWN SENSES.
THEY ARE CONNE-CTED!
THEY CAN NOW...

FROM THE BOT-TOM UP...
IT IS ONLY ONE WAY...
SEE WHAT THE OTHERS THINK!
BUT THEY ARE NO LONGER SEPAR-ATED!
THEY ARE FREED FROM THE DARKNESS AND NIGHTMARE...
OF ISOLA-TION!
ALL RIGHT!

THIS SIGNAL IS HUGE!
GOOD, GOOD, GOOD!
THEY HAVE A SIGNAL!
HEH!

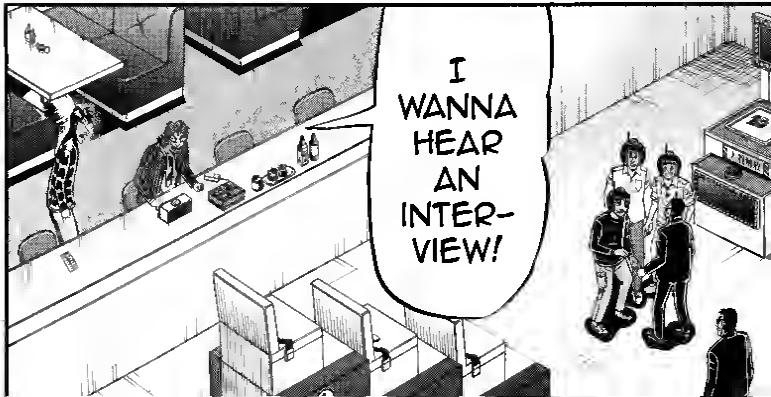
HE'S PRE-TENDING TO BE CALM WITH THAT GRIN...
BUT IN-SIDE ...
THIS HAS TO HAVE BEEN QUITE A SHOCK!
AFTER ALL, THIS SIGNAL
GREATLY INCREAS-ES THEIR ODDS!
KAZUYA DOESN'T WANT
THE ASIAN THREE TO SURVIVE...
TO WIN!

HEY, HOLD UP!!
KA-ZUYA!
THERE'S ONE MORE THING TO DO BEFORE YOU DRAW FOR SEATS.
WHAT?
I WON'T LET YOU DO THAT!!
?
NO FUCKING AROUND!!
YEAH?

DO WHAT?
JUST BECAUSE THINGS AREN'T LOOKING GOOD FOR YOU...
YOU'LL FIND AN EXCUSE...
TO ADD ON SOME KIND OF CONDITION!
LIKE...
BANNING THEM FROM RAISING THEIR HAND!
KHAHHAHHAH!
THAT'D BE DUMB!
I'M NOT GONNA DO THAT!
IN FACT...
THIS GAME, HERE...
DOESN'T REALLY START GETTING GOOD...
'TILL SOMEONE HAS AN IDEA LIKE THAT!

AHH ...!
DOESN'T BOTHER ME!
I'M ALL FOR THIS!

HUH?

AN INTER-VIEW
DIDN'T YOU JUST STOP THEM...
BUT UH...

I WANNA HEAR AN INTER-VIEW!

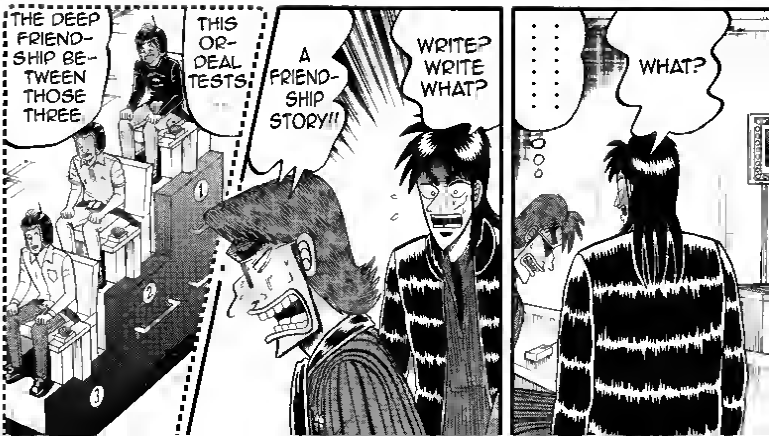
IT'S INTERVIEW TIME!
YES, SIR!
ON KAZUYA'S INSTRUC
HUH?
WHA?
EH?
THE THREE OF THEM WERE TAKEN...

TO INDIVIDUAL ROOMS!
EACH TO THEIR OWN!
バタン!
バタン!
バタン!
AH!

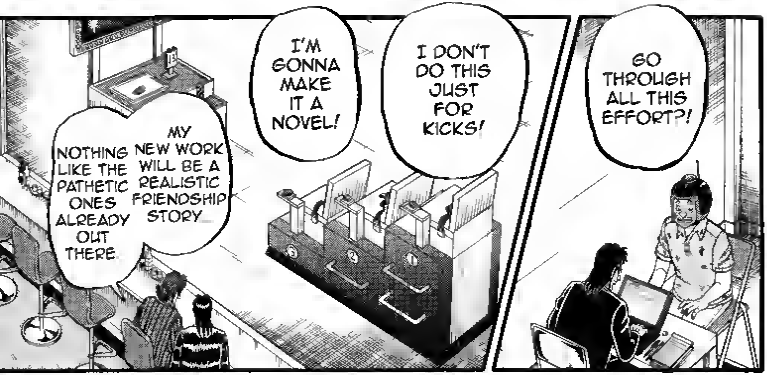
AA-UU-GH-HH!!
WHAT IS IT, NOW?
YOU MOTHER-FUCKER! STOP THIS, RIGHT NOW!!
HUH?
THE TOR-TURE!

YOU'RE TORTURING THEM IN THOSE ROOMS, AREN'T YOU!!
OF COURSE I'M NOT!!
FOR CHRIST'S SAKE, WHAT KINDA IMAGE DO I GIVE OFF...
OUT WITH IT!
TELL ME WHAT YOU'RE DOING, IN THERE!!
IT'S AN INTERVIEW!
WHAT?
I ALREADY TOLD YOU, IT'S AN INTERVIEW!
THEY'RE IN SEPARATE ROOMS TO MAKE SURE...
THEY DON'T INFLUENCE EACH OTHER!
I'M SEPARATING THEM TO FIND OUT...
WHAT THEY'RE ALL THINKING!
.....

SO I CAN WRITE IT DOWN!


WHAT?
.....
WRITE? WRITE WHAT?
A FRIEND-SHIP STORY!!
THIS OR-DEAL TESTS.
THE DEEP FRIEND-SHIP BE-TWEEN THOSE THREE.

WHY ELSE WOULD I DO ALL THIS?!
I'LL WRITE ABOUT THAT!
OR WILL IT HOLD FIRM?
WILL IT BREAK?


NOTHING LIKE THE PATHETIC ONES ALREADY OUT THERE
MY NEW WORK WILL BE A REALISTIC FRIENDSHIP STORY
I'M GONNA MAKE IT A NOVEL!
I DON'T DO THIS JUST FOR KICKS!
GO THROUGH ALL THIS EFFORT?!

THESE INTERVIEWS INFLUENCE THE QUALITY OF THE NOVEL
THIS WILL BE ITS "SALVA-TION"!!

I NEED TO KNOW HOW THEY FEEL...
IN THE MIDDLE OF THE GAME!
JUST THE CLIMAX ISN'T ENOUGH ...
TO WRITE A WHOLE STORY!
.....
.....

PHEH-HEH..
.....
WHAT THEY SAY IN THOSE ROOMS
ドッ...
ギ"...

EACH ROOM HAS A CAMERA IN IT.
OF COU-RSE...
AND PRINTED OUT, HERE.
IS TYPED UP..

ON PAPER!
I'D RATHER HAVE EACH ONE...
BUT IT'S HARD TO CATCH IT ALL IF YOU WATCH ALL THREE AT ONCE.

THA-NKS, MAN!
THIS IS MA-RIO'S.
HERE IT COMES.
Wa Wa Wa...
Rrrr

Third Round Interview
Interviewee: Chang
Position: Bottom Level Role: Hostage

Third Round Interview
Interviewee: Mitsuyama
Position: Middle Level Role: Savior

HERE YOU GO.

CHANG'S AND MITSUYAMA'S ARE HERE, TOO

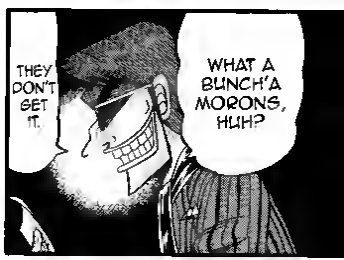
BRING 'EM ON OVER!

.....

ARE ALL CONNECTED!
WE'RE CONNECTED! THE THREE OF US...
Mitsuyama
NOW THAT WE'RE NOT ALONE, WE CAN DO THIS!
WE DID IT!
Chang
I KNEW HOW THE TWO BELOW ME FELT. WE CAN DO THIS NOW! WE CAN DO THIS!
Mario

KHAH-
HAH-
HAH!

HAVING THEIR THOUGHTS JUST PARTIALLY CONNECTED LIKE THIS...
パサ
THEY DON'T GET THE HUMAN HEART!


THEY DON'T GET IT.
WHAT A BUNCH'A MORONS, HUH?

CAN ACTUALLY BE...
THE MOST FRIGHTENING THING OF ALL!
UNDERSTANDING.. BELIEF
HUMANS AREN'T THAT SIMPLISTIC!
CHAPTER ZZ - FIN
第22話 終

第23話「理解」
CHAPTER 23
"UNDERSTANDING"
THINGS AREN'T THAT SIMPLE!
UNDER-STAND-ING... BELIEF...
HUMANS AREN'T THAT SIMPLI-STIC!
ざわ ○○○

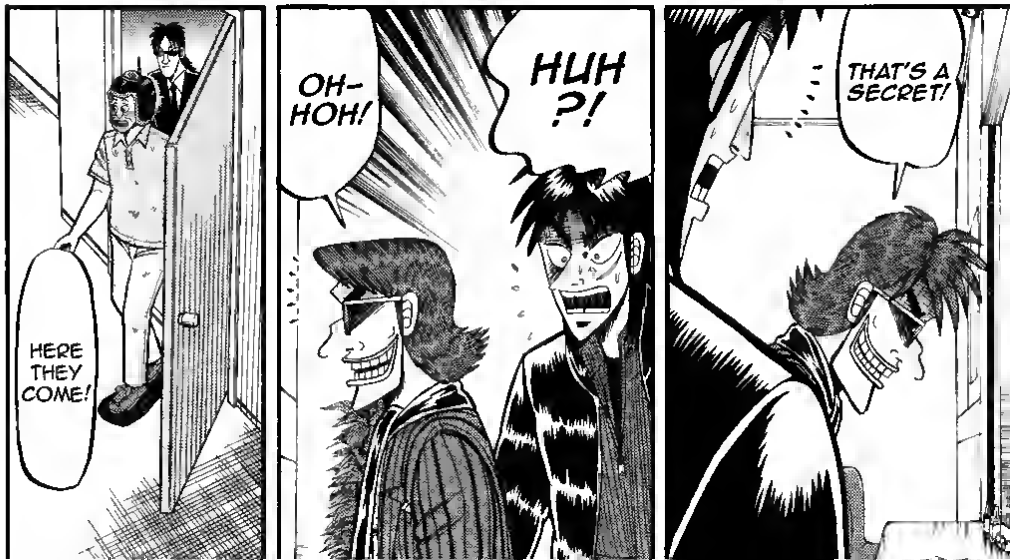
ざわ…
ざわ…
ざわ…
PHEH-HEH-HEH...
WH...

THAT JUST SLIP-PED OUT!

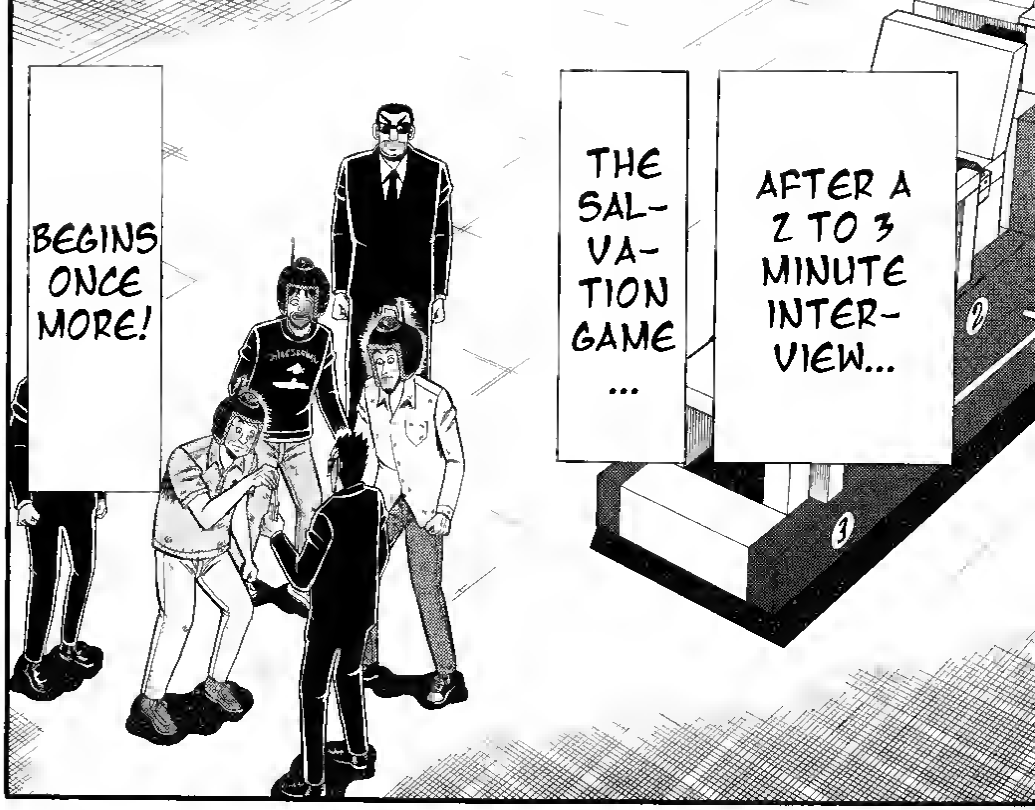
NAH, NAH, MAN!
WHAT THE HELL DOES-?!

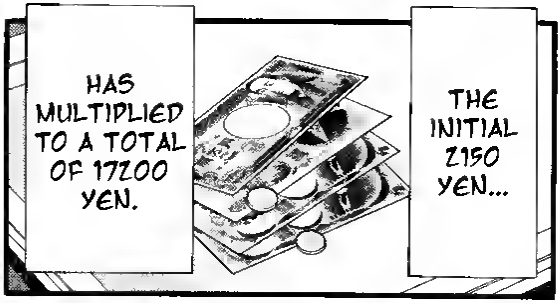
WHO KNOWS, THEY MIGHT DO JUST FINE!
I CAN'T REALLY SAY NOW IF THEY'LL TRIP UP AT ALL!
THEY MIGHT JUST BE FINE!
BUT I'VE KNOWN MY WHOLE LIFE...
THAT PEOPLE ARE REALLY AWFUL, DEEP DOWN!
WHEN I SEE PEOPLE CELEBRATING A LITTLE TOO INNOCENTLY...
I WANNA THROW COLD WATER ON 'EM TO WAKE 'EM UP!
I CAN'T HELP IT!
WHAT? YOU CAN'T HELP IT?!

WITH THOSE THREE?
WHAT'S WRONG...
WHAT IS IT?! WHAT'S SO WRONG WITH WHAT THEY SAID?!
TELL ME!!
PHEH-HEH-HEH...!


HERE THEY COME!
OH-HOH!
HUH?!
THAT'S A SECRET!

I HAVE TO TURN UP.
THE MUSIC IN THEIR HELMETS...
TO COMPLETELY CUT OFF...
I GOTTA TURN UP THE VOLUME FIRST!
CAN'T LET THAT HAPPEN!
THEIR ABILITY...
TO COMMUNICATE!
PHEH-HEH-HEH...
THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT!
.....
KAZU-
OOOO-KAAAY!!
LET'S GET RIGHT BACK TO THE SALVATION GAME!
ONWARD TO ROUND FOUR!
AND SO...


BEGINS ONCE MORE!
THE SAL-VA-TION GAME ...
AFTER A 2 TO 3 MINUTE INTER-VIEW...

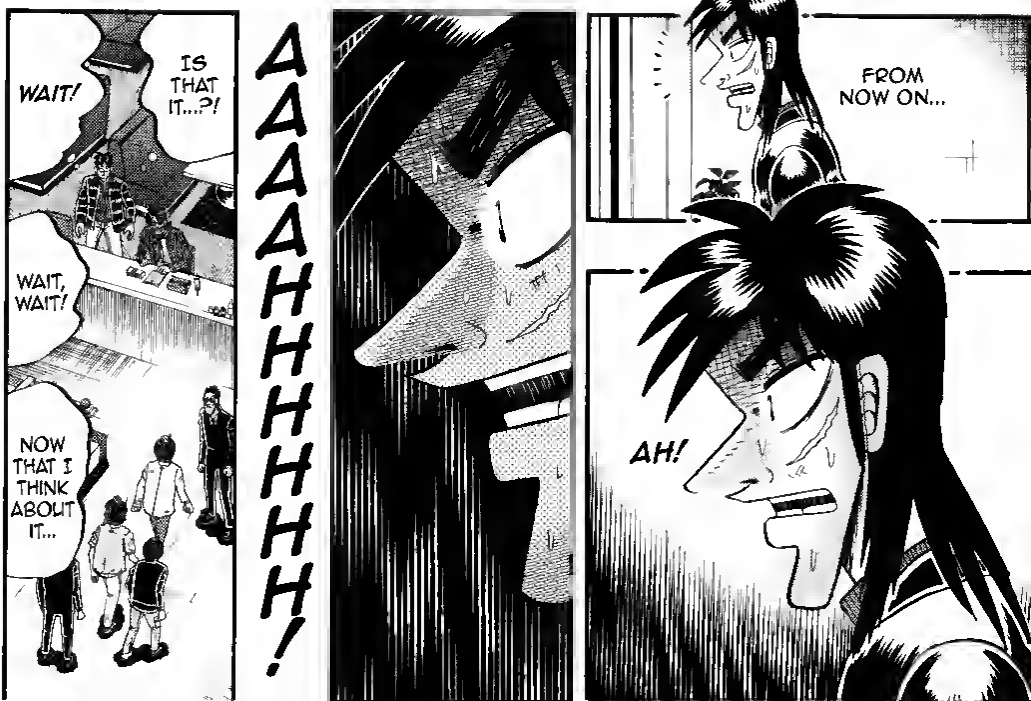

HAS MULTIPLIED TO A TOTAL OF 17200 YEN.
THE INITIAL 2150 YEN...

INCRE-ASING!
IT IS GRADU-ALLY...

AFTER CLEARING THREE ROUNDS...
ROUND 4.
¥ 1200
13
人質解放

THEIR GOAL OF 100 MILLION YEN!
BUT THEY ARE APPRO-ACHING...
IT IS STILL A LONG WAY OFF...
THIS GUY...
HE'S TRYING HIS BEST NOT TO TELL ME SOMETHING...
BUT AS FAR AS I CAN SEE...
THIS IDEA OF THEIRS IS A GOOD THING.
NO, IT ISN'T JUST A GOOD THING!
IT'S PROGRESS!

THIS IS A HUGE LEAP FORWARD!
THEY CAN WIN USING THIS!

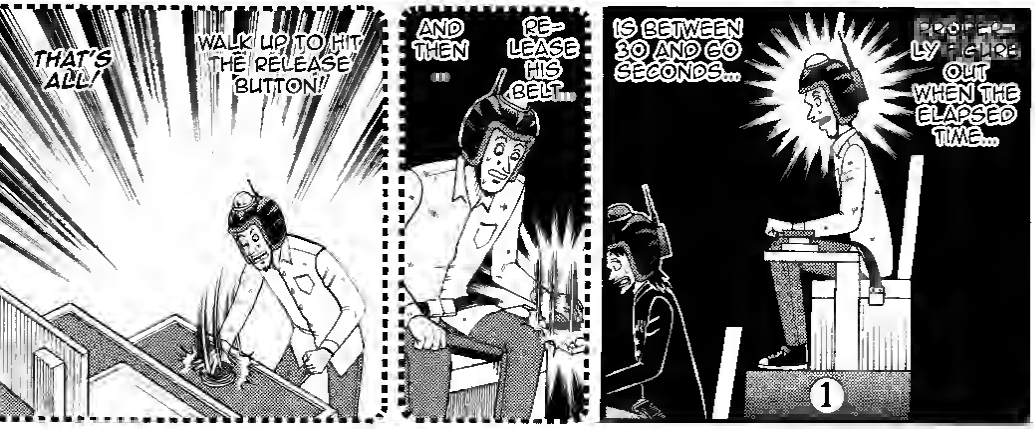

FROM NOW ON...
AH!
AAAAHHHHHH!
IS THAT IT...?!
WAIT!
WAIT, WAIT!
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT...

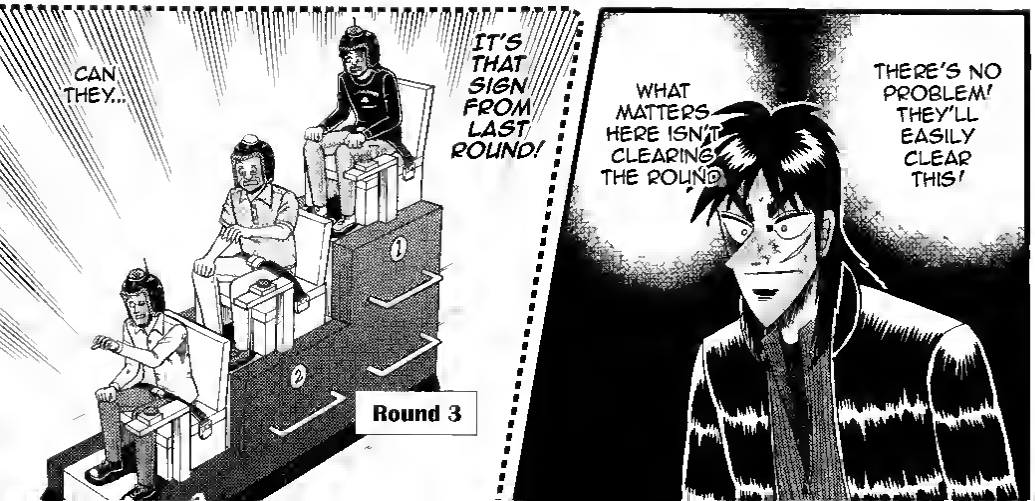
THAT SIGN ISN'T...
SET IN STONE YET!
WE'LL FIND OUT SOON!
WE'LL FIND OUT IF THE THREE OF THEM REALLY UNDERSTAND...
THIS SIGN OR NOT!
IF THEIR POSITIONS CHANGE...
WILL THAT TEAMWORK SEEN IN ROUND 3 HAPPEN AGAIN?
THIS ROUND IS THE KEY!
IT'S POSSI-BLE...
ONE OF THEM IS MISTAKEN!
THEY MIGHT HAVE MADE SOME HORRIBLE MISUNDER-STANDING!
ROUND 4

YES!
IT'S CHANG!
ALL RIGHT!!
GOOD, GOOD!
IT BEGINS.
IF THE SAVIOR IS AT THE TOP, THEN...
THIS ISN'T A PROBLEM, NOW!
IS CHANG AT THE TOP!!
THE SAVIOR ...
WHOA!

THERE CAN'T BE!
THERE'S NO PROBLEM!
GAME
00:01
ROUND 4 BEGINS!
THERE'S NO MISTAKING IT!
HE KNOWS HE'S THE RESCUER!
BELOW HIM!
HE CAN SEE THE TWO HOSTAGES...
IF THE SAVIOR IS AT THE TOP...

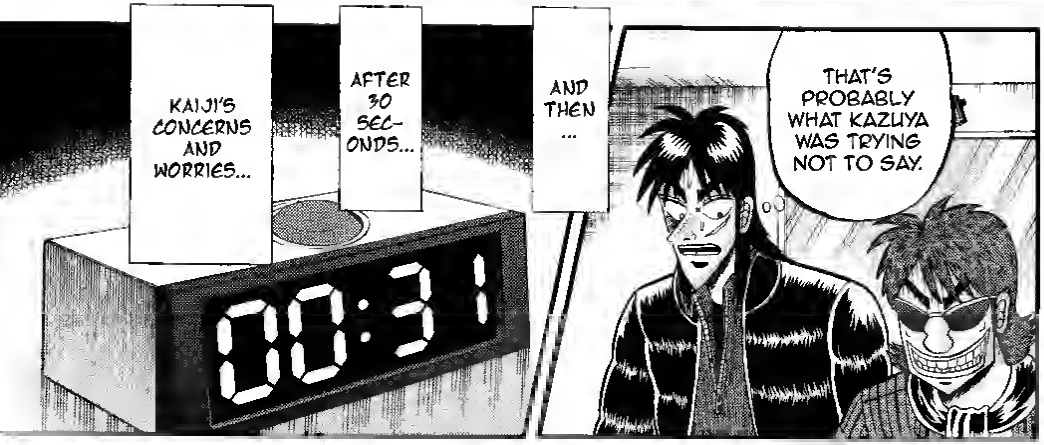
CHANG ONLY HAS TO...
IS THE EASIEST ONE IN THE GAME!
1
2
THIS SITUA-TION...
THEY CAN CLEAR THIS ROUND!


THAT'S ALL.
WALK UP TO HIT THE RELEASE BUTTON!
AND THEN...
RE-LEASE HIS BELT...
IS BETWEEN 30 AND 60 SECONDS...
OUT WHEN THE ELAPSED TIME...
1


CAN THEY...
IT'S THAT SIGN FROM LAST ROUND!
1
2
Round 3
WHAT MATTERS HERE ISN'T CLEARING THE ROUND.
THERE'S NO PROBLEM! THEY'LL EASILY CLEAR THIS!

REPRO-
DUCE THAT
TEAM-
WORK?!
1
2
Round 4
CAN THEY STILL...
IN THESE NEW POSI-TIONS...
2
3
OR CAN'T THEY?
PULL IT OFF?

NOW WE'LL KNOW!
REALLY UNDERSTAND WHAT HAPPENED BEFORE?
DO THEY...
Mitsuyama
Mario
Chang


KAIJI'S CONCERNS AND WORRIES...
AFTER 30 SEC-ONDS...
00:31
AND THEN ...
THAT'S PROBABLY WHAT KAZUYA WAS TRYING NOT TO SAY.

TURN OUT TO BE...

UNNEEDED!
THEY RAISE THEIR HANDS!
THE 2ND AND 3RD PLAYERS RAISE THEIR HANDS...
AND THEN SLOWLY LOWER THEM.
THEY COMMU-NICATE...
EXACTLY WHEN...
THEY'LL PRESS THEIR BUTTON...
TO THOSE ABOVE THEM!
AT THE VERY TOP..
CHANG SEES THIS...

BASED ON THE ACTIONS OF THE OTHER TWO...
AND...
BASED ON HIS SENSE OF 30 SECONDS...
AND PRESS-ES IT!
1
2
HE RELEASES HIS BELT!
AND FROM THERE ...

CLEARS THE ROUND!
ALL RIGHT!
HE EASILY CLEARS IT!
わっ
BUT...
¥ 34400
IN ROUND 5...
12
人質解放

THE MOST PROB-LEM-ATIC...
AND WORRI-SOME CASE SHOWS ITSELF!
A DAN-GER-OUS SCE-NARIO!
THAT IS...
THE SAVIOR BEING AT THE VERY BOTTOM!
THE BOTTOM PERSON MUST ASSUME THE ACTIONS OF THOSE ABOVE...
AND ULTIMATELY MAKE THE FINAL DECISION ON HIS OWN!
EVEN WITH THE SIGN...
THIS IS THE RISKIEST AND MOST WORRISOME POSITION!
ざわ..
AND...
Round 5

THE SAVIOR IS MARIO!
I HESITATE TO SAY IT...
WILL HE REALLY BE OKAY?
BUT HE'S THE LEAST RELIABLE OF THEM.
IT'S MARIO!
DOES HE REALLY...
UNDER-STAND ALL OF THIS?!

CHAPTER 23 - FIN
第23話 終

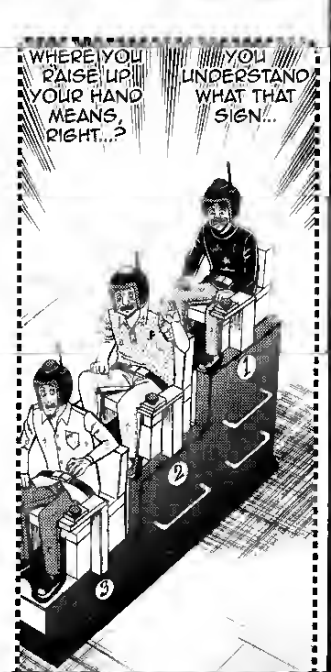
第24話「共有」
CHAPTER 24
"SHARED"
MARIO!!
MARIO!
MARIO!!

MARIO!!
YOU GET IT, DON'T YOU?!

MARIO

THAT 30 SECONDS HAD PASSED!!
THAT'S THE BEGINNING...
BUT AFTER THAT...

WHEN EACH PERSON FELT...
THAT WAS A WAY OF SHARING...


WHERE YOU RAISE UP YOUR HAND MEANS, RIGHT...?
YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT THAT SIGN...

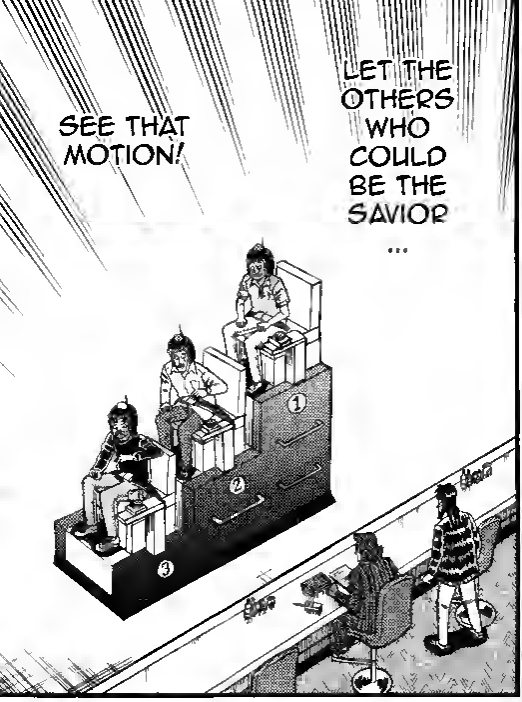
YOU ALL HAVE TO SHARE THE SAME RESOLVE! IT HAS TO BE...
COMES SOMETHING EVEN MORE IMPORTANT!
1
2
3rd Round Positions
AUTO-MATIC!!

IN OTHER WORDS...
YOU HAVE TO BE WILLING TO MOVE, AUTO-MATICALLY!
OF WHEN 30 SEC-ONDS IS...
ONCE YOU'VE SHARED YOUR SENSE...
00:29
YOU CAN'T INCLUDE...
AFTER THAT...
HAH!
ANY OF YOUR FEEL-INGS!

ゆる…
ゆる…
ゆる…
ゆる…
AH-HAH!

EVER SO SLOWLY LOWER YOUR HAND!
SLOWLY…
JUST LIKE THAT!

THAT'S IT!
YES!


SEE THAT MOTION!
LET THE OTHERS WHO COULD BE THE SAVIOR ...
1
2
3

TO UNDO HIS BELT IF HE NEEDS TO!
GIVE THE SAVIOR ENOUGH TIME...

TO HAVE A CHANCE TO RESPOND!
GIVE HIM PLENTY OF TIME...

LET THE PEOPLE ABOVE YOU SEE IT!
Unlocesshoot U

AND IF NO ONE ABOVE YOU...
1
RELEASES THEIR BELT...

PRESS IT!!
Unleeseebootu
THEN YOU HAVE TO PRESS IT!!
YOU CAN'T HESI-TATE!
JUST TRUST THOSE ABOVE YOU!

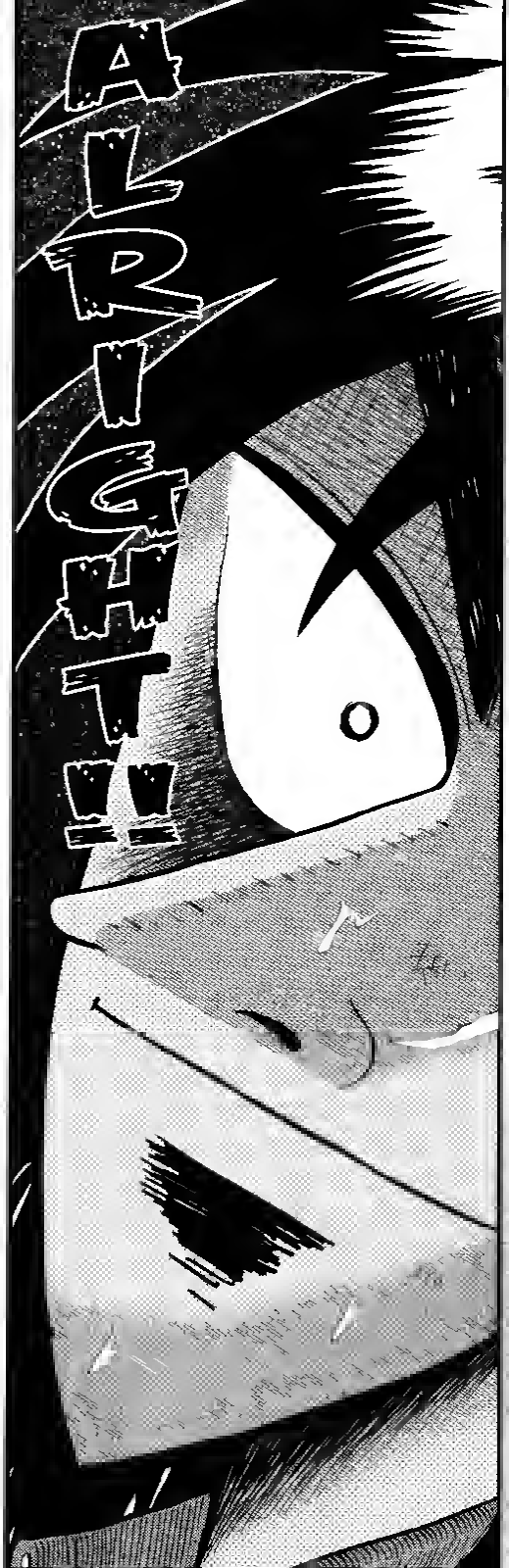
ONCE YOUR SLOWLY LOWERING HAND TOUCHES THE BELT RELEASE BUTTON...

DECI-
SIVELY
PRESS
IT!!
PRESS
IT!!
YOU
HAVE
TO!
YEAH!
YOU
HAVE
TO
MOVE
AUTO-
MATI-
CALLY
WHEN
THAT
TIME
COMES!
TRUST
THEM!!

TRUST YOUR FRIENDS!!
THE RELE-ASE!!

THE RELE-ASE!
THE RELE-ASE!
THE RELE-ASE!
MARIO!
IT WORK-ED!
KAIJI'S FEARS WERE NEED-LESS!
YES! MARIO UNDER-STOOD!
HE GRASP-ED THE CON-CEPT!
HE KNEW EXACTLY WHAT IT WAS...
HE HAD TO DO!
AND THUS...
IT WORK-ED!!

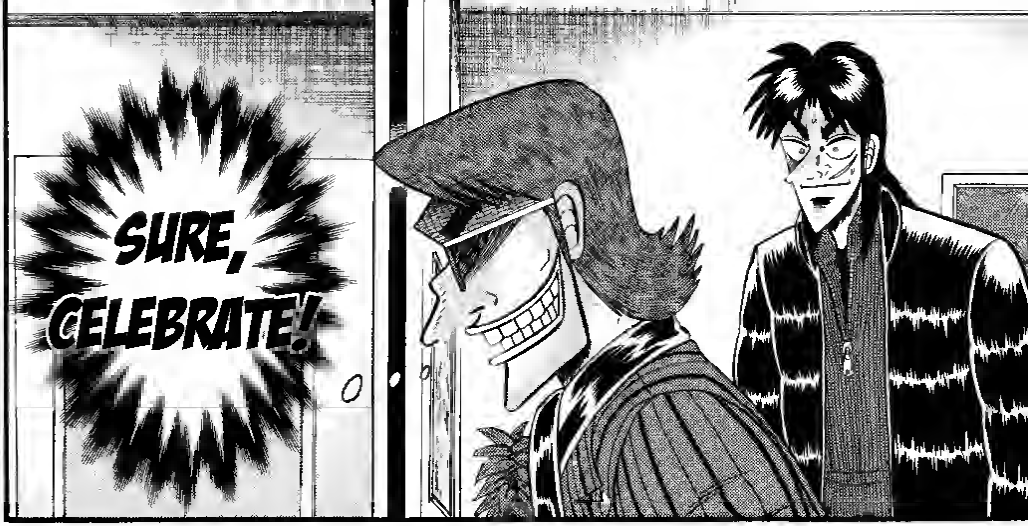
わっ..
HAVING THE SAVIOR BE AT THE BOTTOM...
THEY HAVE NOW CLEARED ROUND 5!!
THEY CLEARED IT!!
SEEMED LIKE THE BIGGEST PROBLEM, BUT THEY CLEARED THE ROUND, NONETHELESS!
CLEAR
1
2

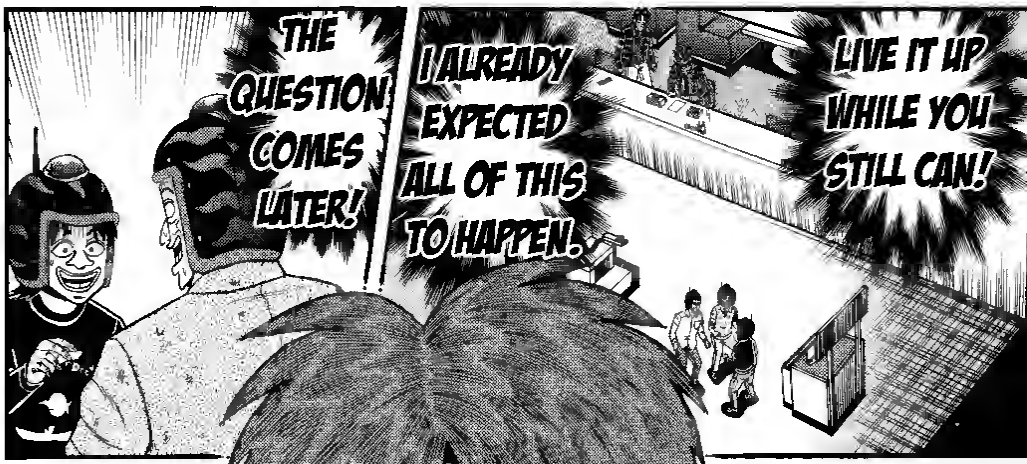

ALRIGHT!!

A BOAT...
WAS BEING TOSSED AROUND BY THE RAPIDS!
THAT WAS HOW IT LOOKED!
THEIR OARS WERE OUT OF SYNC.
THEY HAD NO UNITY...
SO THEY WOULD BE CAPSIZED!
IT SEEMED INEVITABLE!
BUT...
BUT!

THEY BEGAN TO MOVE!!
THEIR REALIZA-TION BROUGHT THEIR OARS TOGETHER!
THEY MOVED FORWARD...
WITHOUT LOSING TO THE RAPIDS!

OKAY!
THAT REALIZATION CHANGED EVERYTHING!
THE BOAT BECAME POWERFUL!
THIS IS NO LONGER WISHFUL THINKING ON MY PART!
THEY CAN DO THIS NOW!
THEY CAN DO THIS!
THEY SHOULD BE ABLE TO WIN NOW!
IT'S A SURE THING!
PHEH-HEH-HEH...
THEY'LL WIN!



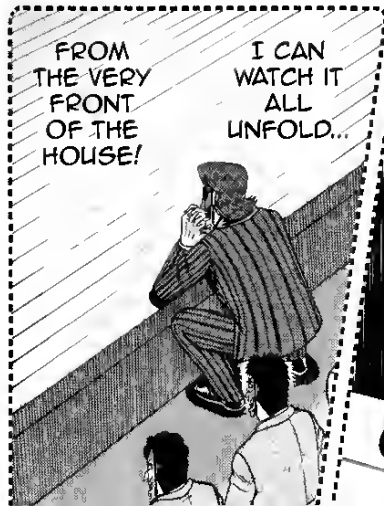


CHAPTER 24 - FIN...
第 24 話 終

THE SECOND STAGE!
THAT'S RIGHT!
BUT REALLY, IT ALL STARTS LATER!
AND THINK THAT VICTORY'S JUST A MATTER OF KEEPING IT UP..
THEY'VE WORKED OUT A STRATEGY.
THE REAL GAME BEGINS AFTER THIS!
TO SLOWLY RISE, BIT BY BIT!
THE CURTAIN WILL BEGIN...
IN THE WAKE OF THIS MOMENT OF JOY..

第25話「楽観」

CHAPTER 25 "OPTIMISM"



TWO OF THE THREE OF THEM WILL BE WRITHING...
SCREAMING IN PAIN!!
1
2
3
THIS...

HIS CONFIDENCE IN THEIR SURVIVAL ONLY DEEPENED.
FORESAW THE EXACT OPPO-SITE!
BUT KAIJI...
WAS WHAT KAZUYA WAS EX-PECTING.

ALRIGHT!
TO THEIR SURVIVAL! AND THE 100 MILLION YEN PRIZE!!
THE CREATION OF THIS SIGNAL EQUATED...

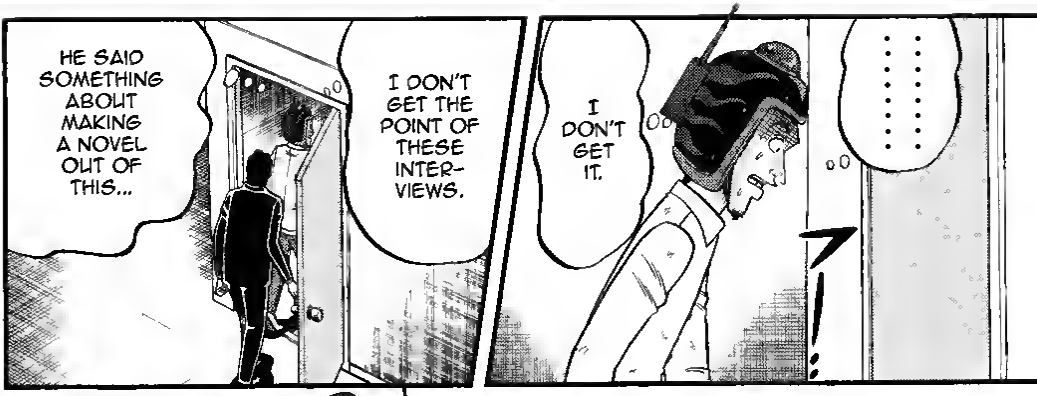
KAIJI'S VIEWPOINT...
THEY CAN DO THIS!
GOOD, GOOD, GOOD!
WAS THE SAME...
AWESOME!
GREAT!
GOOD!
AS THE THREE OF THEIRS!
SO...
THEY UNDERSTAND MY SIGNAL!
MARIO AND MITSUYAMA-SAN GET IT!
THIS WILL WORK!
WE CAN DO THIS!

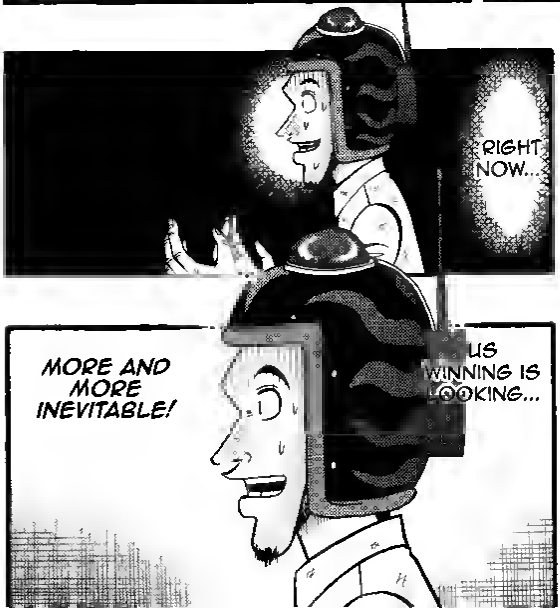
IT WILL BECOME OBVIOUS...
AFTER JUST A SHORT WHILE...
ONCE THE GAME STARTS...
THERE IS NO NEED TO WORRY ABOUT MISUNDER-STANDING, OR WAITING TOO LONG!
12
人質解放
GAME
WHICH MEANS...
WHICH OF US IS THE SAVIOR!
SOME-WHERE BETWEEN 31 SECONDS AND 60 SECONDS!
人質解放
HAVING THE SAVIOR THAT WE ALL KNOW ABOUT PRESS THE BUTTON.
NOTH-ING MORE THAN...
THIS GAME IS NOW...
THIS IS AN EASY GAME, NOW!

WE CAN PULL THIS MUCH OFF!
SO WE CAN DO THIS!
I CAN!
MARIO CAN!

LET'S HAVE AN INTER-VIEW!
TIME FOR AN INTER-VIEW!
AND MITSUYAMA-SAN CAN!

ANOTHER ONE?
AN INTERVIEW?
HUH...?
さわ・・・


HE SAID SOMETHING ABOUT MAKING A NOVEL OUT OF THIS...
I DON'T GET THE POINT OF THESE INTER-VIEWS.
I DON'T GET IT.
・・・・・・・・
!?


RIGHT NOW...
MORE AND MORE INEVITABLE!
US WINNING IS LOOKING...

SAYING ANYTHING SPECIAL, RIGHT NOW...
BUT I AM NOT REALLY.

MARIO AND...
MITSUYAMA-SAN...
OF COURSE THAT'S WHAT I'M SAYING!
THAT'S ALL I'M SAYING!
IT'S JUST OBVIOUS TO SAY THAT!
ARE PROBABLY SAYING THE SAME THING!
HOW RICH PEOPLE THINK...
BUT...
I REALLY DON'T UNDER-STAND...
THIS IS MEANINGLESS!
IT'S OKAY!

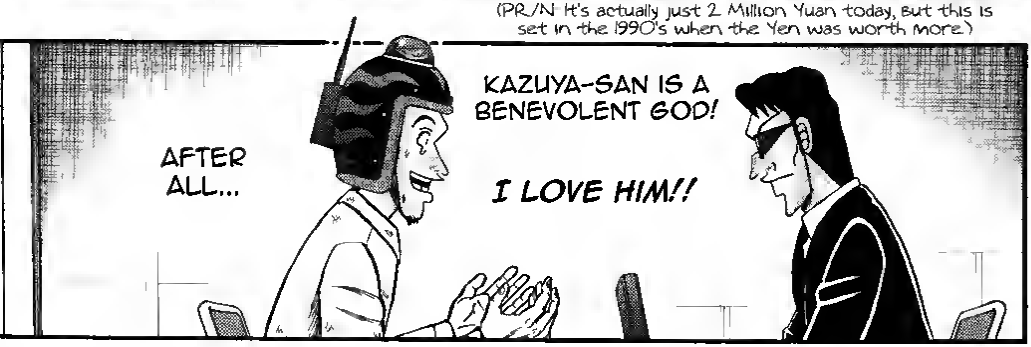
THIS IS OKAY! ANYTHING'S FINE WITH
I DON'T REALLY MIND...

AND SINCE THERE'S THREE OF US...
WILL EARN US 100 MILLION!

1/3 OF IT IS 33 MILLION YEN!

AND DOING THESE INTERVIEWS...
PLAYING THIS GAME...

(PR/N: It's actually just 2 Million Yuan today, but this is set in the 1990's when the Yen was worth more.)



MY DREAM CAN COME TRUE!
I'VE ALWAYS LONGED TO BE A RICH MAN...
AND NOW, I CAN BE!

MAMA...
I LEFT MY HOME WHEN I WAS 10.
AS A SECOND SON, THAT WAS MY FATE.
CHINA'S ONE-CHILD POLICY...

GENERALLY ONLY ALLOWED ONE CHILD
TO HAVE MORE CHILDREN ON THE FAMILY REGISTER...
ONE HAD TO PAY A VAST SUM OF MONEY
POOR FAMILIES COULD NOT DO THAT.
AND SO, UNREGISTERED CHILDREN WERE BORN.

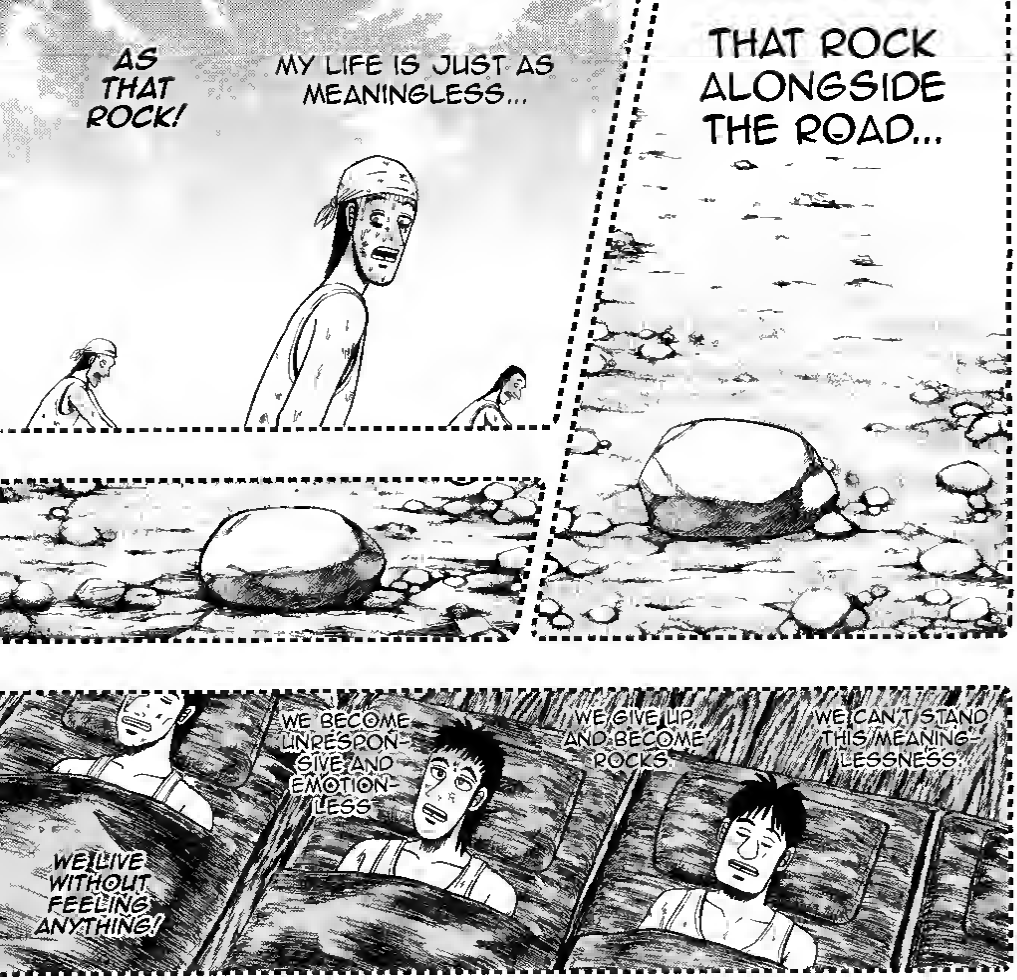
THEY WOULD NOT BE ABLE...
TO RECEIVE NORMAL EDUCATION AND MEDICAL CARE.
AND ALSO...
THEY COULD NOT OFFICIALLY WORK OR GET MARRIED

IF THEIR FAMILY OWNED A FARM...
THEY COULD ONLY HELP WITH THAT...
AND JUST BARELY MANAGE TO LIVE ON.
BUT...

HE LEFT HIS PARENTS AND BEGAN LABORING AT ANOTHER FARM.
WHEN HE TURNED 10...
IN CHANG'S CASE, HE WAS 10.
THEY COULD NOT ALWAYS REMAIN WITH THEIR PARENTS.
THAT...
THEY WOULD BE FINED MORE THAN THEY MADE IN A YEAR.
IF THE GOVERNMENT LEARNED OF AN UNREGISTERED CHILD LIKE CHANG...
AND MORE-OVER...
LESSENED THE FOOD COSTS OF HIS POOR FAMILY...
FOR A POOR FAMILY LIKE HIS...
HE LEFT HIS PAR-ENTS!
CHANG LEFT THE HOUSE!
AND SO AT THE AGE OF 10...
THAT WOULD BE THE END OF THEM.

WAITING FOR HIM...
AND AT HIS DES-TINA-TION...
WAS UN-ENDING LABOR!
AGE 11
HE LIVED WITH OTHERS IN SIMILAR CIRCUM-STANCES.
AGE 12
HE SHARED A SMALL ROOM WITH THEM.
AGE 13
HE ATE POOR FOOD WITH THEM.
AGE 14

THIS IS NO WAY... FOR A HUMAN BEING TO LIVE!

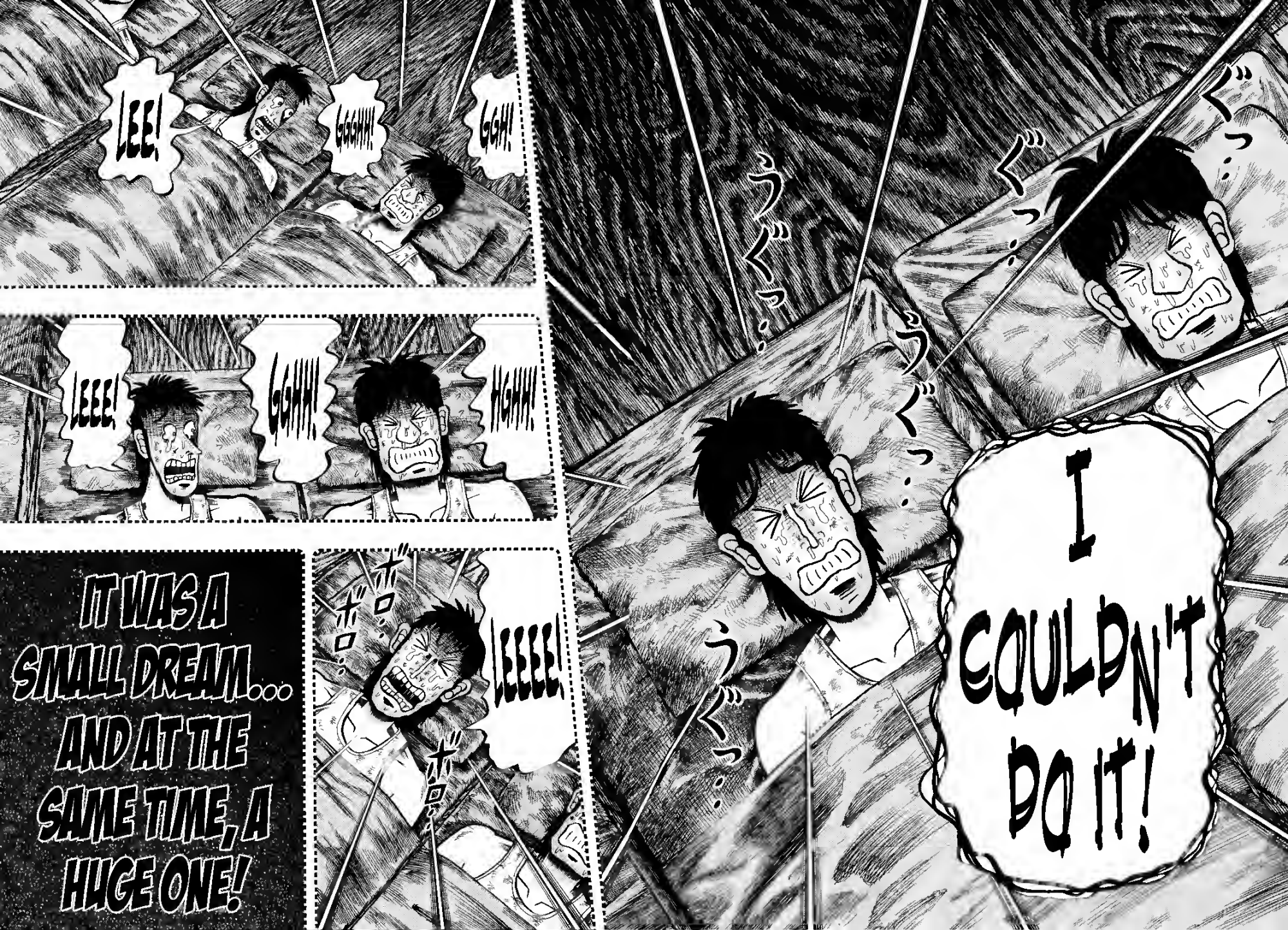

AS THAT ROCK!
MY LIFE IS JUST AS MEANINGLESS...
THAT ROCK ALONGSIDE THE ROAD...

WE LIVE WITHOUT FEELING ANYTHING!
WE BECOME UNRESPONSIVE AND EMOTIONLESS
WE GIVE UP, AND BECOME ROCKS
WE CAN'T STAND THIS MEANINGLESSNESS

I KEPT THINKING THAT AND THINKING THAT AND THINKING THAT!
BUT...

A ROCK... A ROCK... A ROCK...

YEAH... A ROCK!
A ROCK!

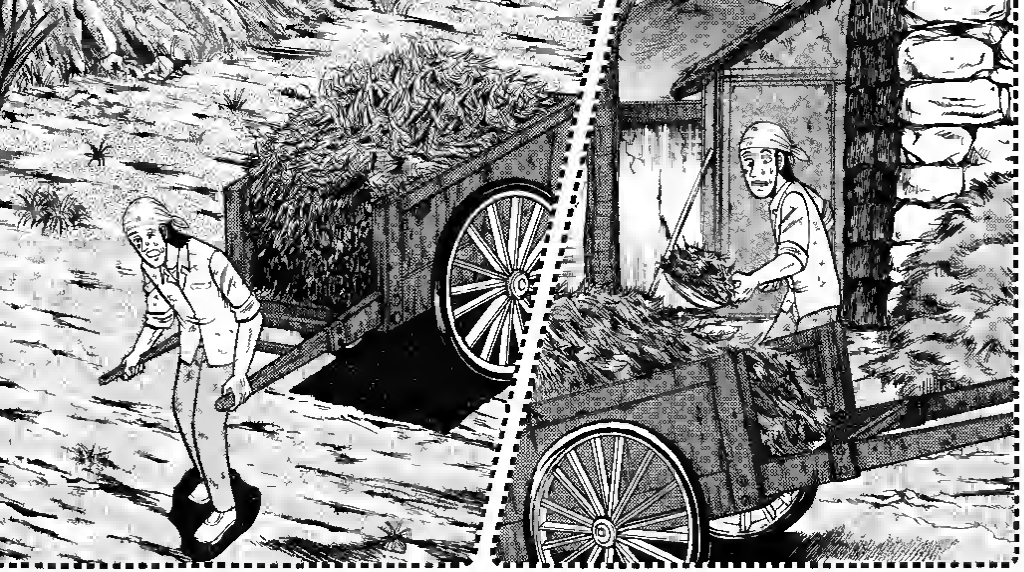

I COULDN'T DO IT!
うぐっ
うぐっ
うぐっ
ぐっ
LEE!
GGHH!
GGH!
LEEE!
GGHH!
HGHH!
LEEEE!
ボロ
ボロ
ボロ
IT WAS A SMALL DREAM... AND AT THE SAME TIME, A HUGE ONE!

CHAPTER 25 - FIN...
第25話 終

IT WAS CLOSED TO ME!!

第26話「邂逅」

CHAPTER 26 "ESCAPE"

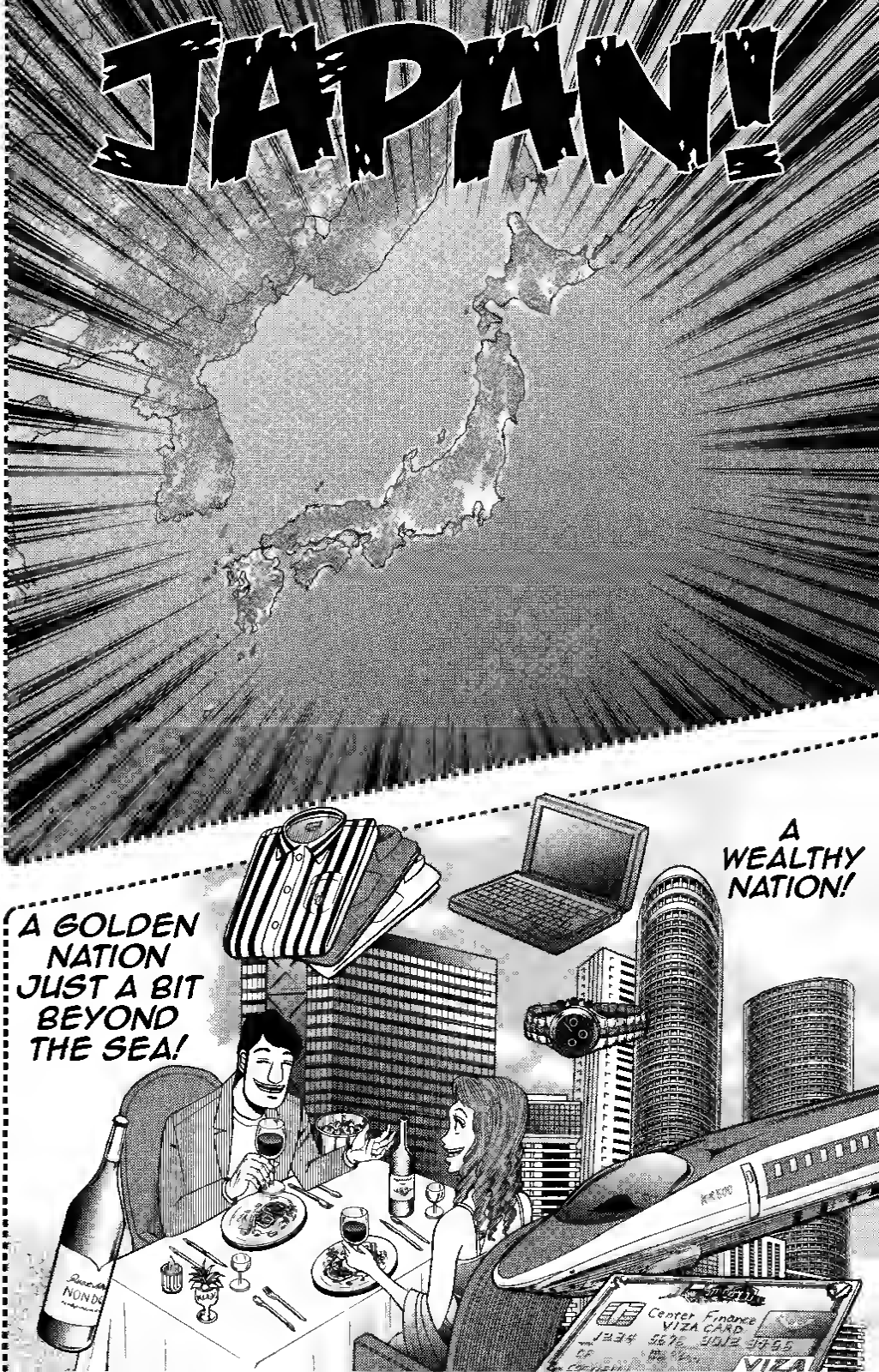


YOU COULD ESCAPE THIS ENVIRONMENT!

THERE WAS AN OPENING!

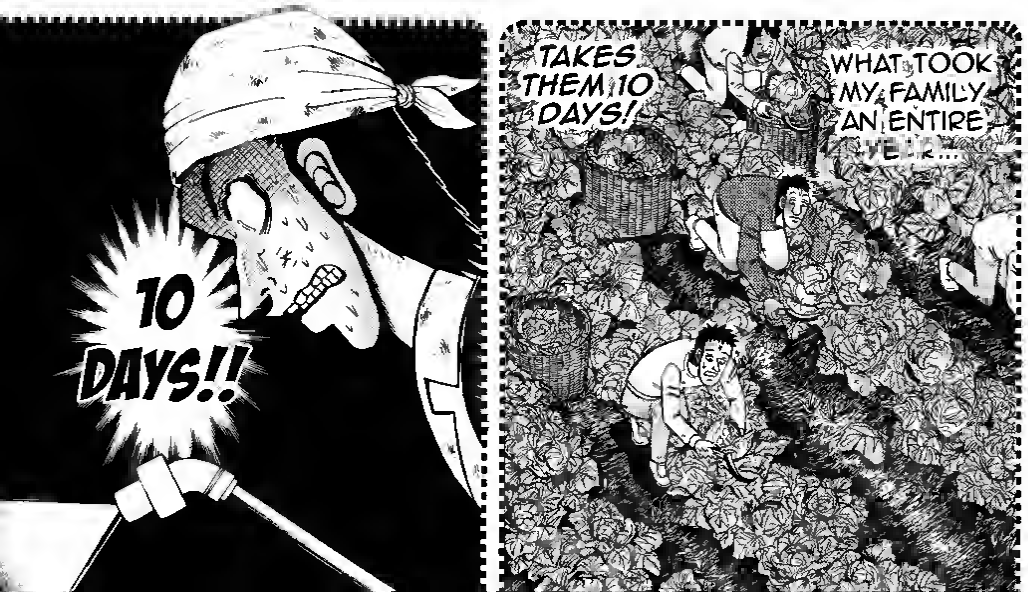
AND THAT WAS...

THERE WAS A WAY OUT!


JAPAN!
A GOLDEN NATION JUST A BIT BEYOND THE SEA!
A WEALTHY NATION!
Center Finance
VISA CARD
VISA

COULD JUST BARELY MAKE 7000 YUAN (APPROXIMATELY 100,000 YEN, OR 1000 USD).
IN A WHOLE YEAR, MY FAMILY...
INCOME THERE...
WAS EASILY DOZENS OF TIMES MORE THAN WHAT WE HAD IN CHINA.

WHAT THE HELL?
BUT IN THAT COUNTRY, ONE YOUNG MAN COULD EARN THAT MUCH WITH 10 DAYS' WORK!


10 DAYS!!
TAKES THEM 10 DAYS!
WHAT TOOK MY FAMILY AN ENTIRE YEAR...

COULD BECOME REGIS-TERED!

I COULD OFFICIALLY GET MARRIED!
THAT WOULD MEAN I COULD GET A PROPER JOB!
BUT...
THAT WOULD OF COURSE BE THROUGH AN UNDER-GROUND ROUTE...
AND MAMA...
I COULD BUILD A HOUSE!
BUT BEFORE I COULD DO THAT...
SAVE THEM FROM THEIR HARD LIFE!
SAVE THEM!
I COULD MEET MAMA, AND MY FAMILY AGAIN!
AND THEN...

IF I WENT TO JAPAN...

AND BOUGHT A REGISTRATION...

I HAD TO SOMEHOW GET TO JAPAN!

I COULD BECOME...

A TRUE, LEGAL CHINESE MAN!

NEEDLESS TO SAY..

FOR SOMEONE UNREGISTERED LIKE CHANG, THERE WAS NO CHANCE AT ALL.

BUT THAT WAS ONLY FOR PEOPLE WITH PROPER IDS.

CHINA DID INDEED SEND SOME WORKERS TO JAPANESE CORPORATIONS...

THAT WAS IMPOSSIBLE FOR CHANG.

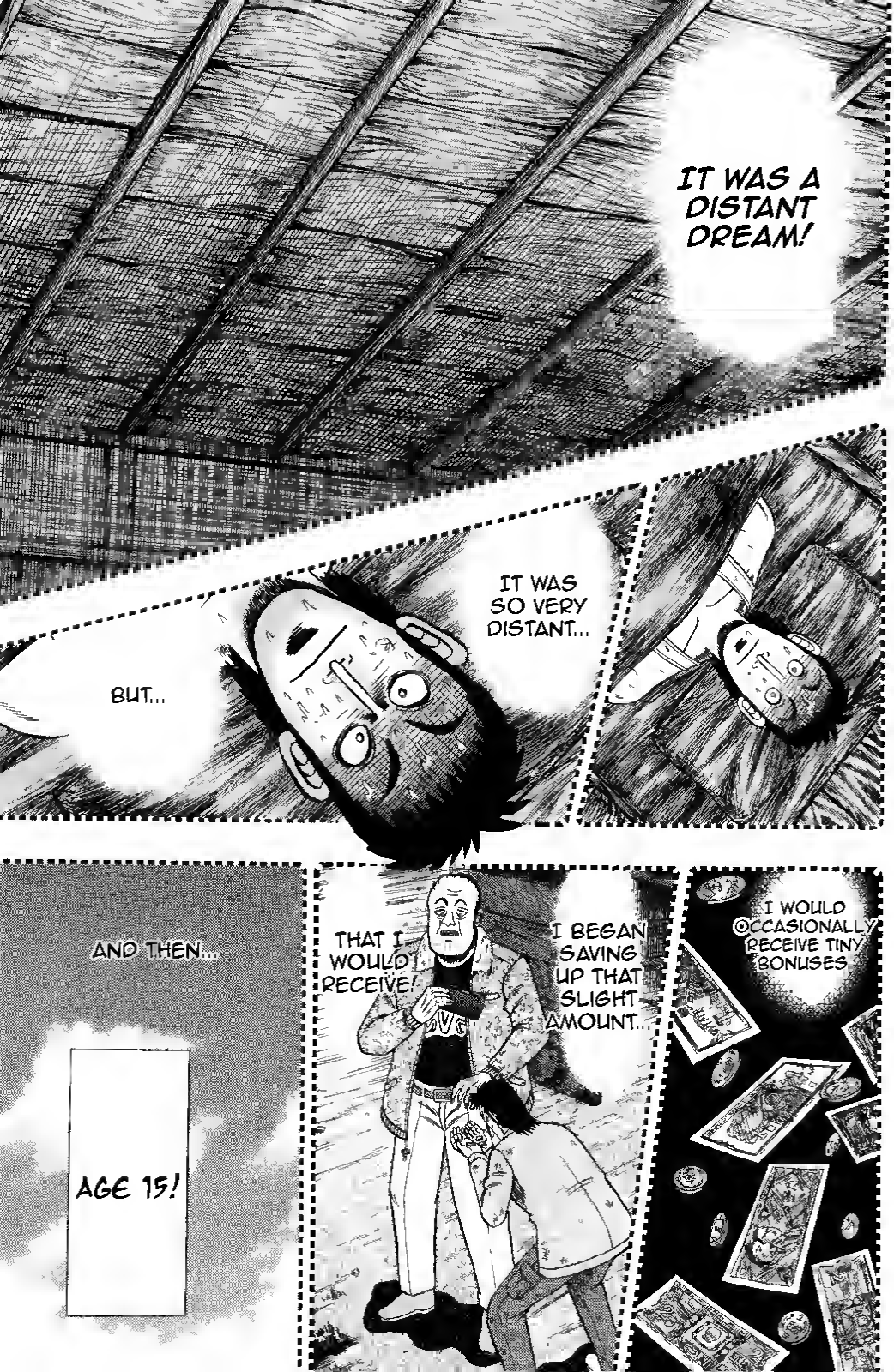
HOWEVER ...

THE UNDER-GROUND WORLD COULD MAKE THE IMPOSSIBLE POSSIBLE!
USING UNDER-GROUND ROUTES...
THERE WAS A SLIGHT POSSI-BILITY.
THE GANGS IN CHINA'S UNDER-GROUND...
WOULD ALSO...
SEND CHINESE YOUTHS TO JAPAN TO WORK FOR CHEAP LABOR.
森精
森精密電子株式会社
EVEN AN UNREGISTERED PERSON LIKE CHANG HAD A CHANCE VIA THAT ROUTE!

OF COURSE...
THEY WOULD MAKE ALL THE ARRANGEMENTS.
AND PAY FOR PASSAGE.
PREPARE A PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT...
THE ORGANIZATION WOULD CREATE A FAKE PASSPORT...
IN THAT CASE...
BUT NEVERTHELESS...
THAT WOULD WEIGH HEAVILY ON HIS SHOULDERS...
ALL OF THAT WOULD CREATE DEBT WHICH CHANG NEEDED TO PAY BACK.
BUT!
HE COULD MAKE HIS WAY TO JAPAN!
HE COULD GO!

AND THAT CONDITION LOOKED LIKE A TOWERING WALL TO SOMEONE LIKE CHANG!
THERE WAS ONE CONDI-TION!
THAT CONDITION LOOKED INSURMOUNT-ABLE AND IMPREGNABLE!
HE HAD TO...
BE ABLE TO COMMUNICATE WITH THE COMPANY.
IN OTHER WORDS ...

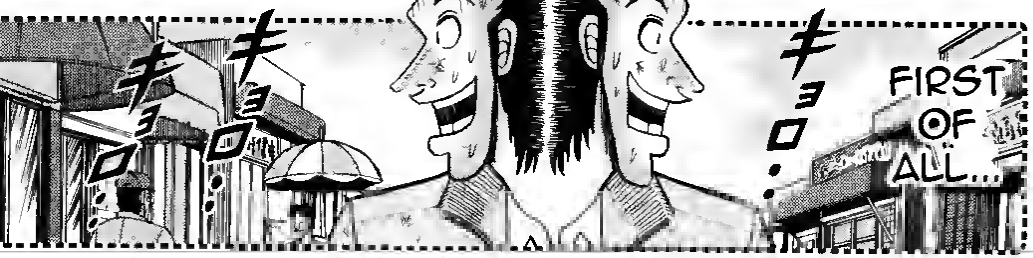
IF HE COULD NOT SPEAK JAPANESE...
JAPANESE!
HE WOULD HAVE NO VALUE AS A LABORER!
THE JAPANESE COMPANY WOULD REJECT HIM!
HE WOULD NOT PASS THE INTERVIEW WITH THE UNDERGROUND ORGANIZATION EITHER.
AND OF COURSE ...


IT WAS A DISTANT DREAM!
IT WAS SO VERY DISTANT...
BUT...
I WOULD OCCASIONALLY RECEIVE TINY BONUSES
I BEGAN SAVING UP THAT SLIGHT AMOUNT...
THAT I WOULD RECEIVE!
AND THEN...
AGE 15!

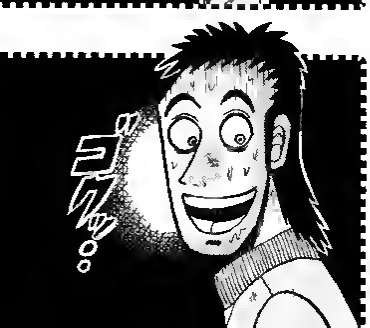
HE WAS ACTUALLY MEETING WITH A MISTRESS.
BUT THAT WAS REALLY JUST A FRONT.
HE SAID HE WANTED TO BUY SOME FURNITURE...
SO HE PAID US OFF.
HE WAS IN A GOOD MOOD, ...
I HAD NEVER BEEN OUT IN THE CITY BEFORE.
BROUGHT US INTO THE CITY.
OUR MASTER HAD...

WE RECEIVED RARE FREE TIME!
WE RECEIVED A RARE AMOUNT OF MONEY.
WE WERE SURROUNDED BY SO MANY TEMPTATIONS!
WE HEARD FUN NOISES AND SMELLED DELICIOUS AROMAS.
MY COMPANIONS AND I WERE OVERJOYED!
COMBINED WITH THE MONEY WE GOT HERE, I HAD QUITE A SUM!
I HAD BROUGHT MY SAVED UP MONEY WITH ME!
WE WERE GOING TO THE CITY...
WHEN I HEARD...

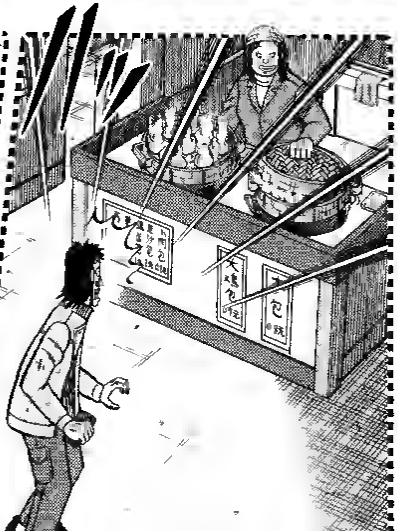
I CAN DO ANYTHING HERE!
I CAN DO ANYTHING!


キョロ…
キョロ…
キョロ…
FIRST OF ALL...

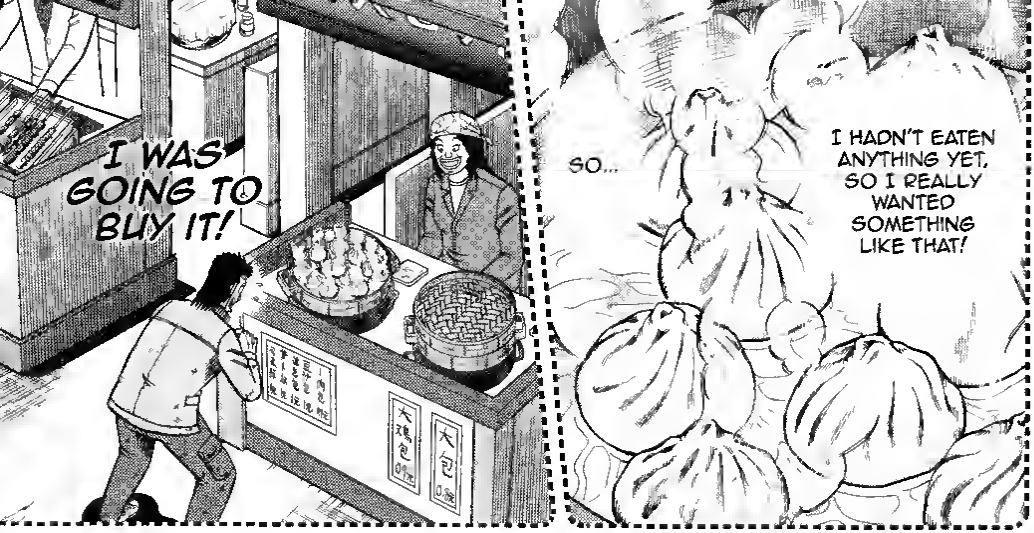
AHH!


ゴクッ。

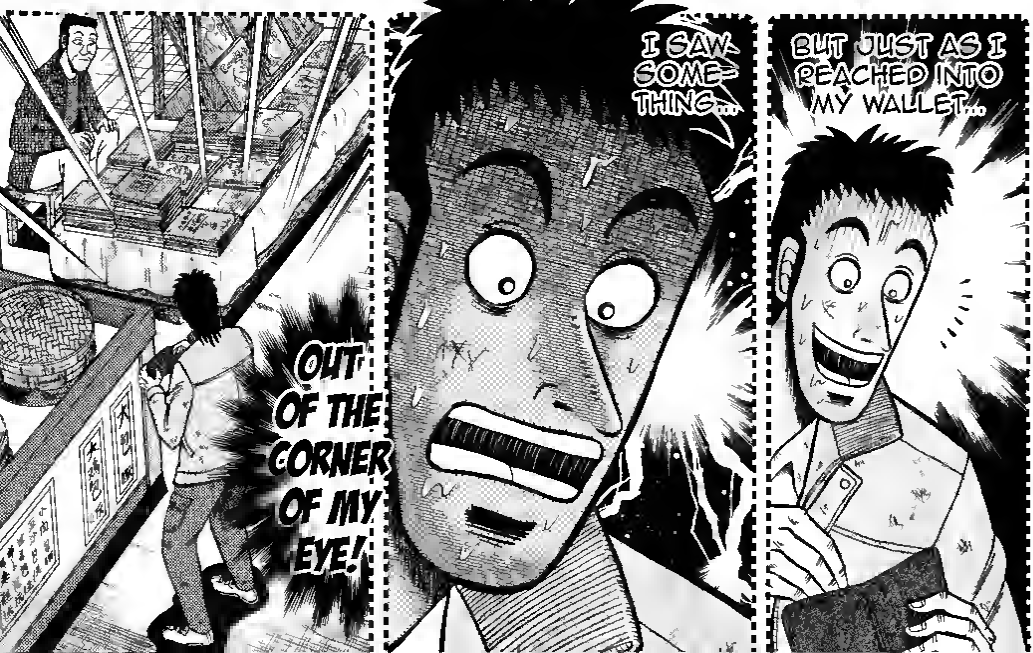
ホカ…
ホカ…
ホカ…



AHHHH-
HHHHH-
HHHHH!
AHHHH-
HHHH-
HHHH-
HHHH!
DURING INTERVIEW
THOSE PORK BUNS I SAW!
I REALLY WANTED TO EAT...

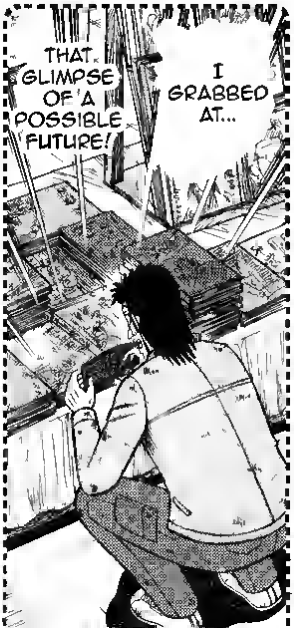

I WAS GOING TO BUY IT!
SO...
I HADN'T EATEN ANYTHING YET, SO I REALLY WANTED SOMETHING LIKE THAT!

I WAS GOING TO BUY IT! BUY IT! BUY IT!
I WAS GOING TO BUY IT WITHOUT EVEN THINKING!


OUT OF THE CORNER OF MY EYE!
I SAW SOMETHING...
BUT JUST AS I REACHED INTO MY WALLET...

A WORN OUT...
JAPANESE TEXTBOOK!
IT WAS AS IF IT WERE WAITING FOR ME!
IT WAS AT THE VERY NEXT STORE!
I WAS CONFI- ICTED!!
HA... HAHH!

I WAS A BIT SHORT ON MONEY...



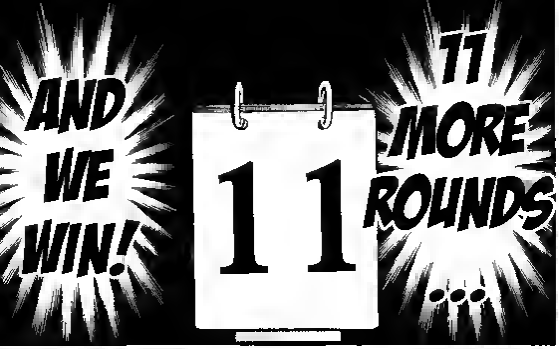
I GRABBED IT!

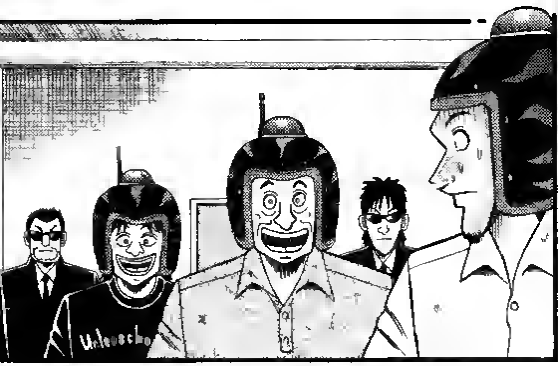
I SCRAPED MY HEAD AGAINST THE GROUND, BEGGING HIM!
SO I BOWED DOWN!
THAT SHOP OWNER...
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT...
WAS LIKE A STINGY GOD OF FATE...
SO IT FELT LIKE I WAS RIPPING IT OUT OF HIS HANDS, BUT...
I BOUGHT IT!

STANDARD JAPANESE FOR CHINESE SPEAKERS!

THAT'S WHERE IT BEGAN!

CHAPTER 26 - FIN...
第 26 話 終





CHAPTER 27 "RUSHING"

第27話「驀進」

LET'S FINISH IT OFF!
JUST 11 MORE!

ざわ…
……

ざわ…
ざわ…
11 MORE ROUNDS!!

AND SO...

THE SALVATION GAME...
BEGINS ONCE MORE!
1
2
AT THIS POINT, THEY HAVE COMPLETED 5 ROUNDS.
IT IS ROUND 6.
GAME
THEY ARE ABOUT 1/3 OF THE WAY THROUGH ...
COMPLETING ALL 18 ROUNDS ...
OF THIS SALVATION GAME.
THEREFORE...

THEY WOULD BE FEELING DEPRESSED.

NORMALLY ...

THE PATH TO VICTORY IS STILL A LONG ONE!

THE LONG PATH AHEAD OF THEM...

WOULD WEIGH DOWN ON THEM!

IT DOE-SN'T!
BUT...
IT SHOULD FEEL HEAVY..
IT IS TENSE, BUT STILL BRIGHT!
THE ATMO-SPHERE IS VERY BRIGHT.
IT IS THE OPPO-SITE!
11
YES ...
1
ABOUT THEIR STRA-TEGY!
SO...
THEY HAD SWEPT AWAY THE VERY LAST OF THEIR UNEASE...
WITH THE COMPLETION OF ROUND 5...

THE ATMO-SPHERE ...
IS LIGHT!
IT IS FILLED WITH...
CONFI-DENCE IN THEIR VICTORY!
ARMOR
ARMOR
チャラ

THEY BREAK THROUGH!
AND WITH THAT ...
THEY COM-PLETE ROUND 6!!
CLEAR

AND THEN...
ROUND 7...
わっ!
ハイ!
EXCITE-MENT!
JOY!
IS ALSO COM-PLETED!
HIGH SPI-RITS!
Scebootu

IF THEY MESS UP, TWO OF THE THREE OF THEM WILL DIE.
THEIR THOUGHTS DO NOT WANDER!
THEY FOCUS AS SOON AS THE NEXT ROUND BEGINS!
AND THEN, QUICKLY, THEY FOCUS!
THE THREE OF THEM...
1
2
3
THEY ARE RESOLUTE!
AND SO...
THIS IS NO TIME FOR OTHER THOUGHTS!
FULLY UNDERSTAND THAT FACT!
THEY CAN DO THIS! THEY CAN DO THIS! THEY CAN DO THIS!
YES!
THERE IS NO APPARENT DANGER!

ROUND 8...
YES!
IS CLEAR-ED, TOO!
THE PRIZE MONEY THAT BEGAN AT 2150 YEN...
人質解放
IS NOW 554, 000!
AND THEY HAVE 8 ROUNDS LEFT!
8
THEY HAVE REACHED THE HALFWAY POINT!
ALRIGHT!
INTER-VIEW.

YES, SIR!
SIR ...!
YO, GET TO IT!
TIME FOR AN INTER-VIEW.
WE CAN DO THIS!
WE CAN DO THIS!
YES... ALL RIGHT!
WE CAN WIN!

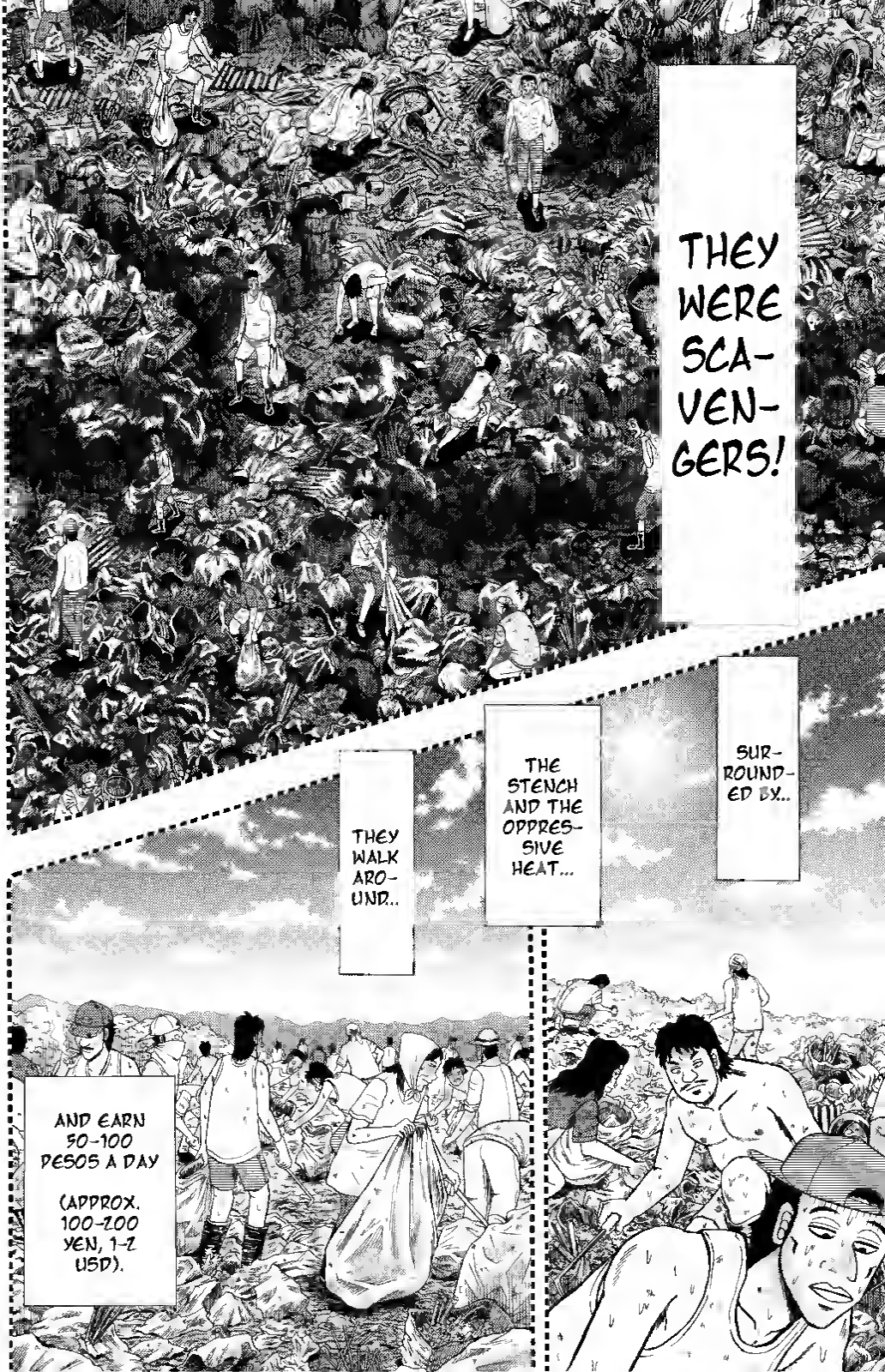
A THIRD OF 100 MILLION!
33 MILLION YEN!
I CAN GET...
THAT MONEY!
IN MY COUNTRY'S MONEY...
THAT'S 16.5 MILLION PESOS!
(PR/N: Again, this would be less money today, about 14.7 Million Philippine Pesos)
WE CAN ESCAPE!
AMOUNT OF MONEY!
THAT'S AN OVER-WHELM-ING...
I CAN!
AND MY FAMILY CAN!

WE CAN ESCAPE FROM THAT OCEAN OF FILTH!
THERE IS A VAST TRASH DUMP
IN QUEZON CITY, TO THE NORTH OF THE MANILA AREA...
TRASH!
TRASH!
TRASH!
IT IS SMOKEY VALLEY!
AND MARIO ...

HE WAS THE POOREST OF THE POOR IN THE PHILIP-PINES!
HAD BEEN THERE AS FAR BACK AS HE COULD REMEMBER.
HE WAS A SCA-VEN-GER!
CHAPTER 27 - FIN...
第27話 終

TITLE: CHAPTER 28 "OBSCURITY"

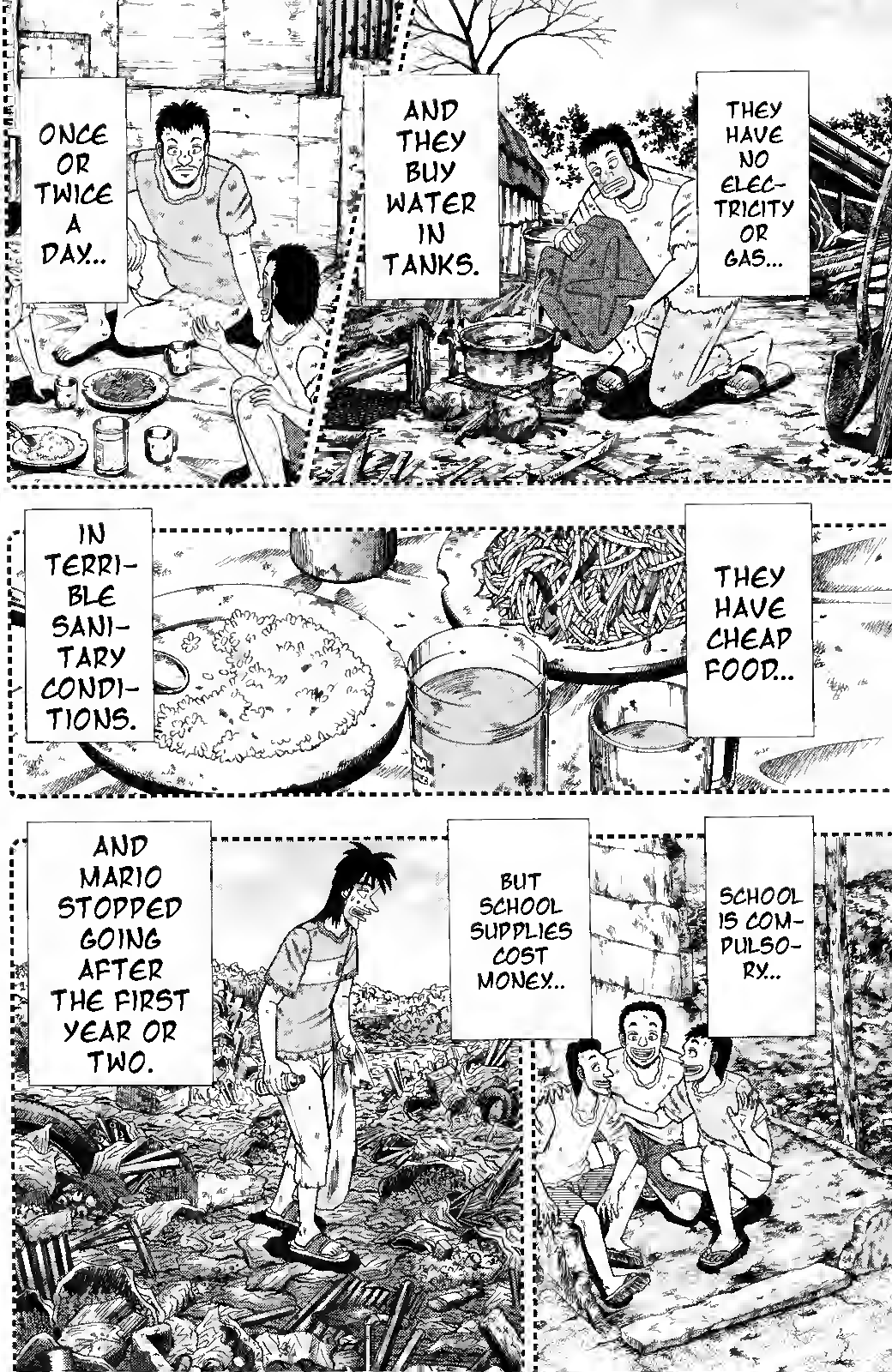
第28話「雌伏」


THEY WERE SCA-VEN-GERS!
SUR-ROUND-ED BY..
THE STENCH AND THE OPPRES-SIVE HEAT...
THEY WALK ARO-UND..
AND EARN 50-100 PESOS A DAY
(APPROX. 100-200 YEN, 1-2 USD).

COLLECTING GARBAGE LIKE THIS...
THEY HAVE NO CHOICE.
THEY DO NOT LIVE IN THIS ENVIRONMENT BY CHOICE.
OF COURSE...
Greenshine

NATURALLY...
IS THE ONLY JOB AVAILABLE TO THEM!

THEY LIVE IN SHANTIES.
THEY LIVE AT ROCK BOTTOM.

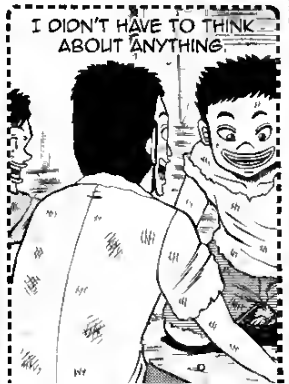

ONCE OR TWICE A DAY...
AND THEY BUY WATER IN TANKS.
THEY HAVE NO ELEC-TRICITY OR GAS...
IN TERRI-BLE SANI-TARY CONDI-TIONS.
THEY HAVE CHEAP FOOD...
AND MARIO STOPPED GOING AFTER THE FIRST YEAR OR TWO.
BUT SCHOOL SUPPLIES COST MONEY..
SCHOOL IS COM-PULSO-RY...

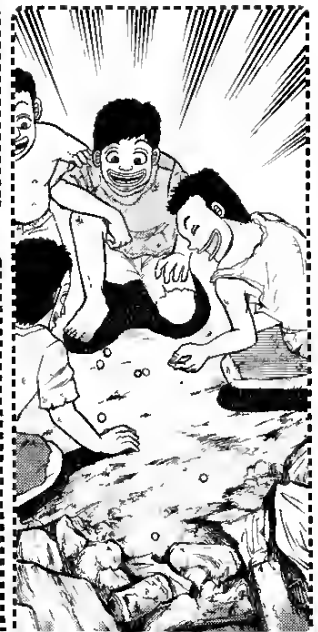
THIS WAS NOT JUST FOR MARIO.
IT WAS HIS OLDER BRO-THER...
AND EVERYONE ELSE AROUND HIM!
WHEN IT COMES DOWN TO IT...

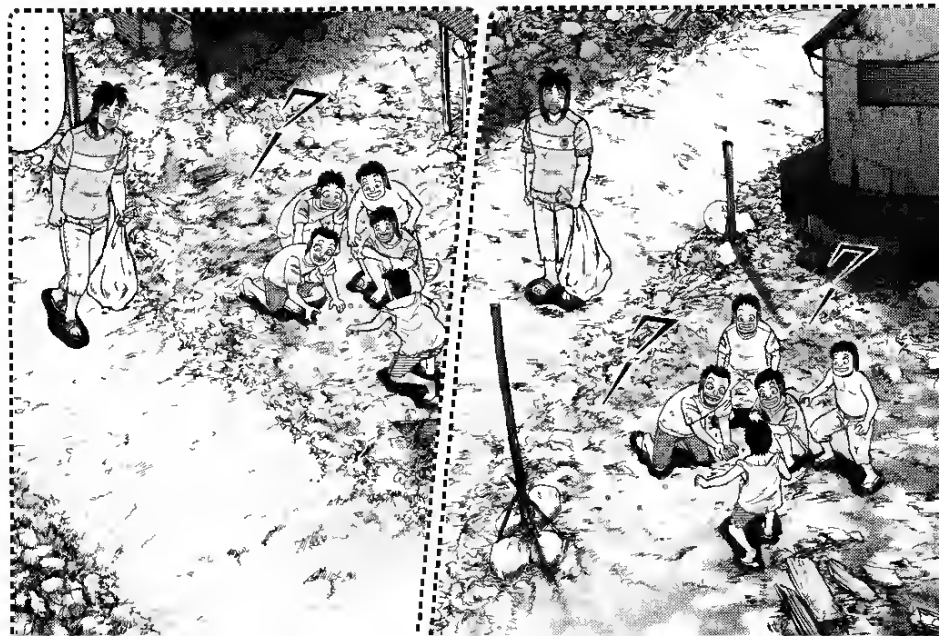
WE LIVE HERE!
WE WILL LIVE IN THIS SEA ALL OUR LIVES!
WE LIVE HERE!

BACK THEN.
IT WAS SO MUCH BETTER...

19...
BUT NOW I'M 19...
ゲスッ


I DIDN'T HAVE TO THINK ABOUT ANYTHING.





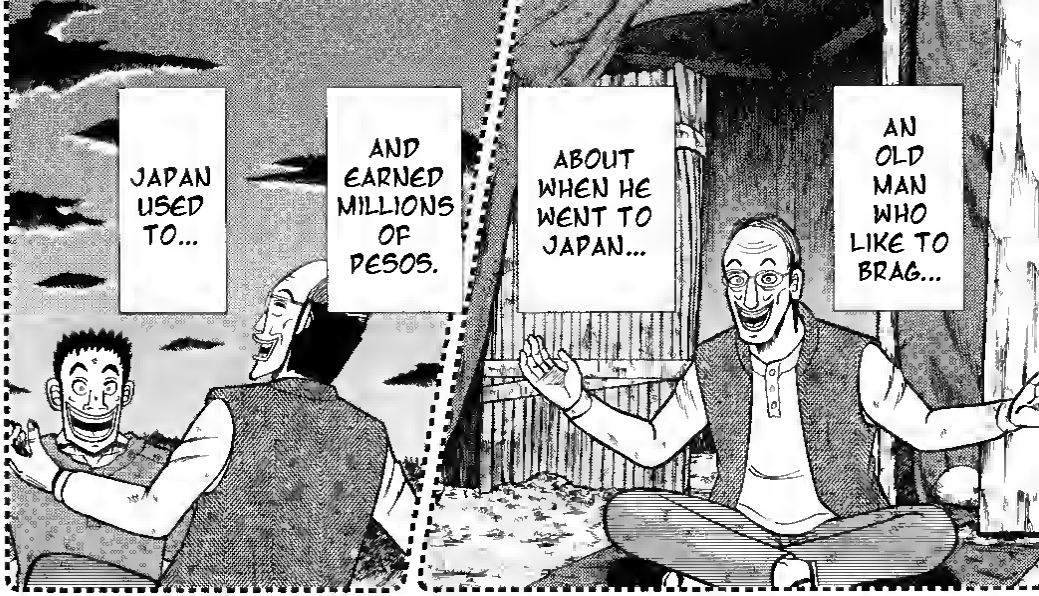
NINE
HEY, C'MON, WHAT'S WITH THAT SAD FACE?
ANTO-NIO...
HA-AA-AH!
AH-HAH-HAH!
Mario's Older Brother - Antonio
LET'S GET GOING, OKAY?
HUH?

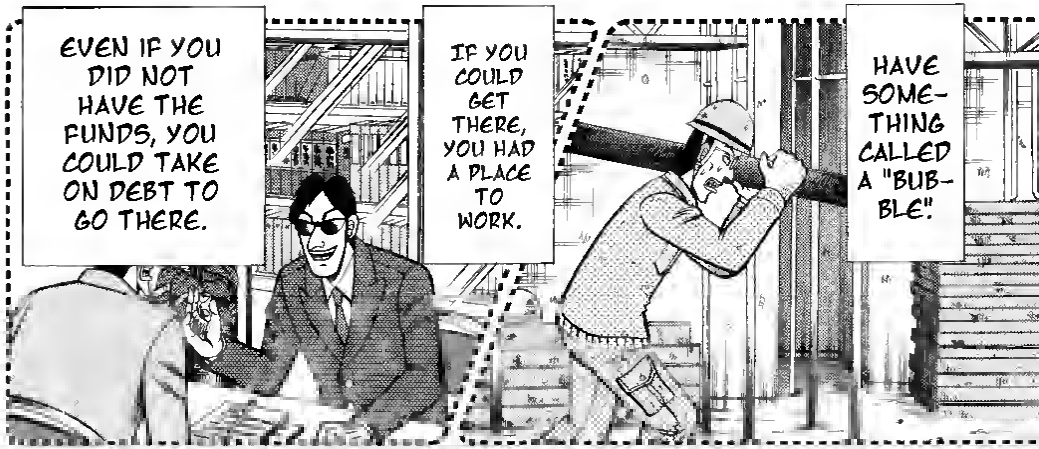
OH, C'MON!
COUNT ME OUT...
HUHHH-HH...?!
OLD MAN JOSÉ'S PLACE.
GET GOING.. WHERE...?

LET'S LEARN TO-GETHER!
LET'S GO TO-GETHER!

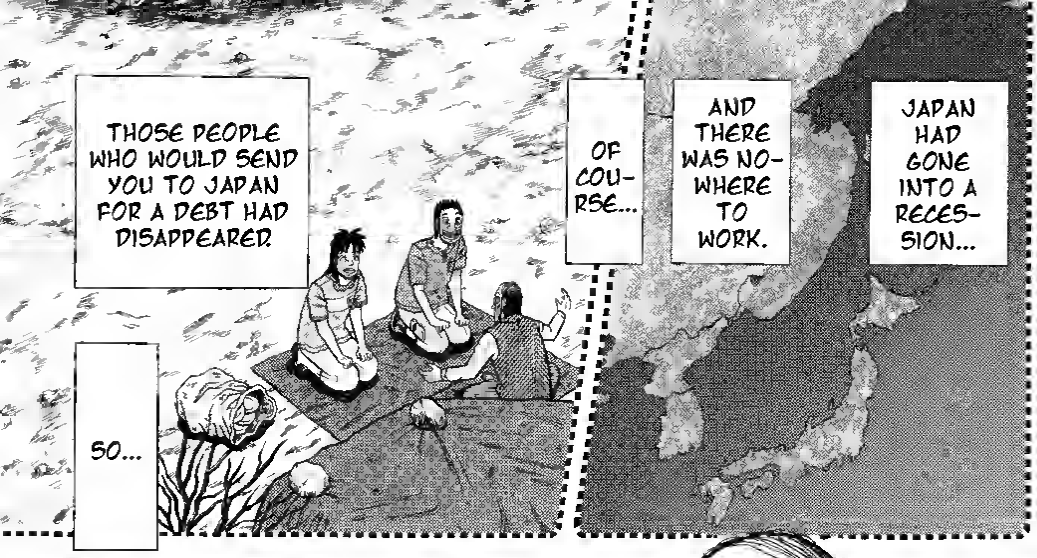
OLD MAN JOSE WAS...

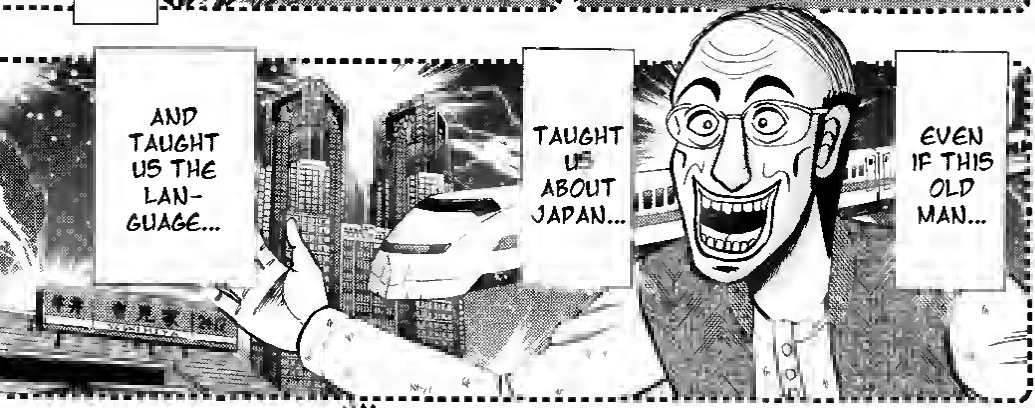
LET'S LEARN JAPA-NESE!


AN OLD MAN WHO LIKE TO BRAG...
ABOUT WHEN HE WENT TO JAPAN...
JAPAN USED TO...
AND EARNED MILLIONS OF PESOS.

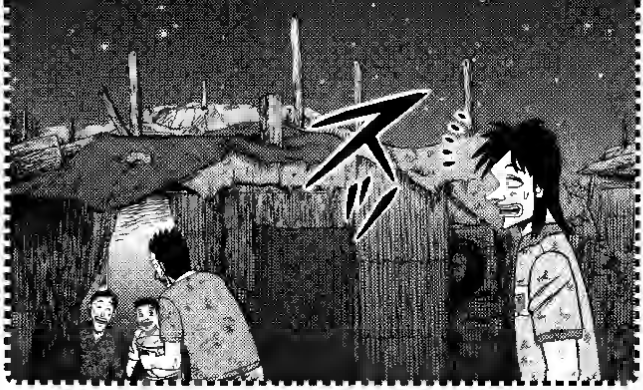

HAVE SOME-THING CALLED A "BUB-BLE".
IF YOU COULD GET THERE, YOU HAD A PLACE TO WORK.
EVEN IF YOU DID NOT HAVE THE FUNDS, YOU COULD TAKE ON DEBT TO GO THERE.

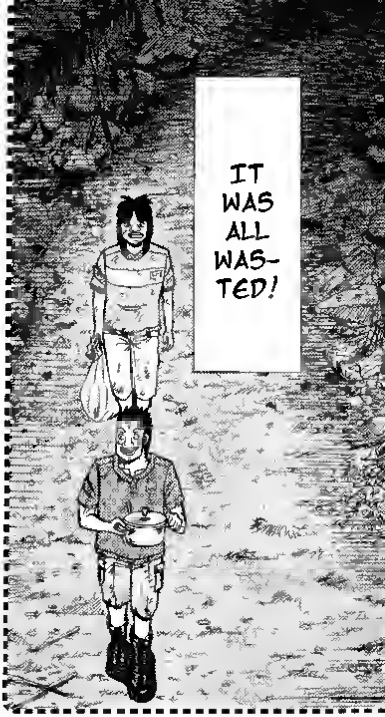
THERE WERE A LOT OF PEOPLE OFFERING THAT DEAL.
IN OTHER WORDS ...
EVEN WITHOUT MONEY, YOU COULD TAKE ON DEBT...
TO GO TO JAPAN AND POSSIBLY EARN PLENTY OF MONEY.
BUT ...

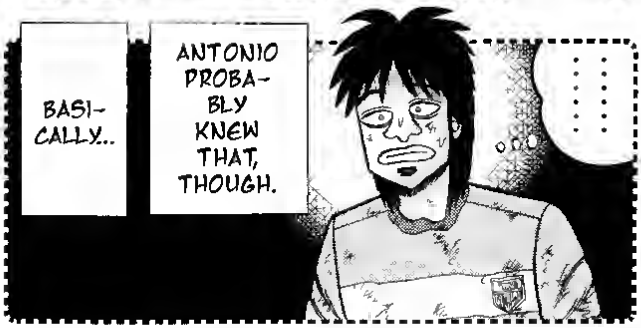

JAPAN HAD GONE INTO A RECESSION...
AND THERE WAS NOWHERE TO WORK.
OF COURSE...
THOSE PEOPLE WHO WOULD SEND YOU TO JAPAN FOR A DEBT HAD DISAPPEARED.
SO...


EVEN IF THIS OLD MAN...
TAUGHT US ABOUT JAPAN...
AND TAUGHT US THE LANGUAGE...

IT WAS MEANINGLESS.
IT WAS USELESS!
THE FOOD WE GAVE HIM WAS WASTED.



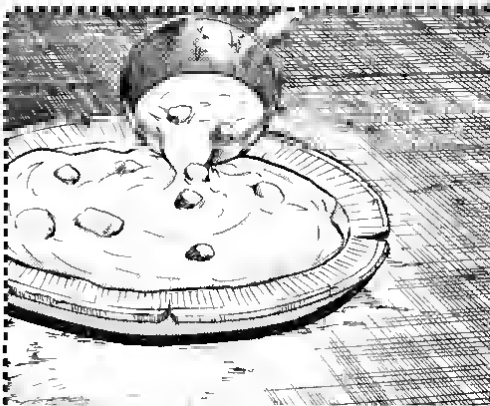

IT WAS ALL WAS-TED!


BASI-CALLY..
ANTONIO PROBA-BLY KNEW THAT, THOUGH.
. . . . . .

WHO COULD NOT COLLECT TRASH!
HE LIKED GIVING FOOD TO THE PEOPLE...

HE JUST LIKED TREAT-ING PEOPLE.

WE HAD ENOUGH TROUBLE FEEDING OUR-SELVES.
IT SEEM-ED SO STUPID.



IT WAS COMPLETELY STUPID.
AND ONE OF THE PEOPLE HE FED...
WAS ANTONIO'S FRIEND ...
PEDRO.
HE HAD BEEN BRIGHT AND CHEERFUL IN THE PAST...
BUT THE SITUATION HERE HAD CRUSHED HIS MOTIVATION.
HE COULD NOT COLLECT TRASH.
HE WAS ALMOST A VEGETABLE.
. . . . . .

YEAH ...
I UNDERSTOOD PEDRO'S LACK OF MOTIVATION.
I UNDERSTOOD HOW HE FELT.
IT WAS COMPLETELY NORMAL.
BECOMING LIKE THAT WAS NORMAL.
ANTONIO!
WHAT HOPE DID HE HAVE?
REALLY STRANGE.
HE WAS STRANGE.
ANTONIO WAS THE ODD ONE.
YEAH?

THE FOOD YOU GIVE OUT IS WASTED!
LEARNING IT IS USE-LESS!
EH?
JAPA-NESE IS MEAN-ING-LESS!

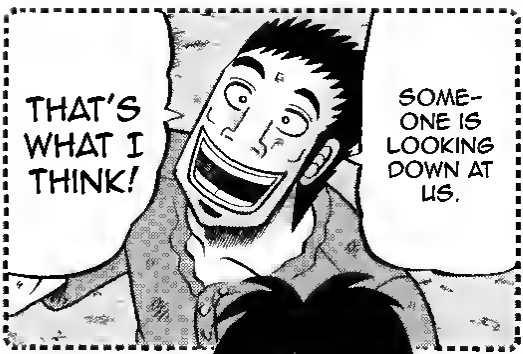
IT'S ALL JUST WASTED!
WE HAVE NO FUTURE!

MARIO ...
. . . . . .
IT'S ALL EMPTY!

I DON'T KNOW WHERE...
?

BUT SOME-WHERE...

HUH...?


THAT'S WHAT I THINK!
SOME-ONE IS LOOKING DOWN AT US.

SOME-WHERE UP IN THAT SKY...

WATCHING OVER US, ALL THE TIME!
SOME-ONE IS LOOKING DOWN AT US...

YEAH!!
GOD...?
THAT'S EXACTLY IT!!

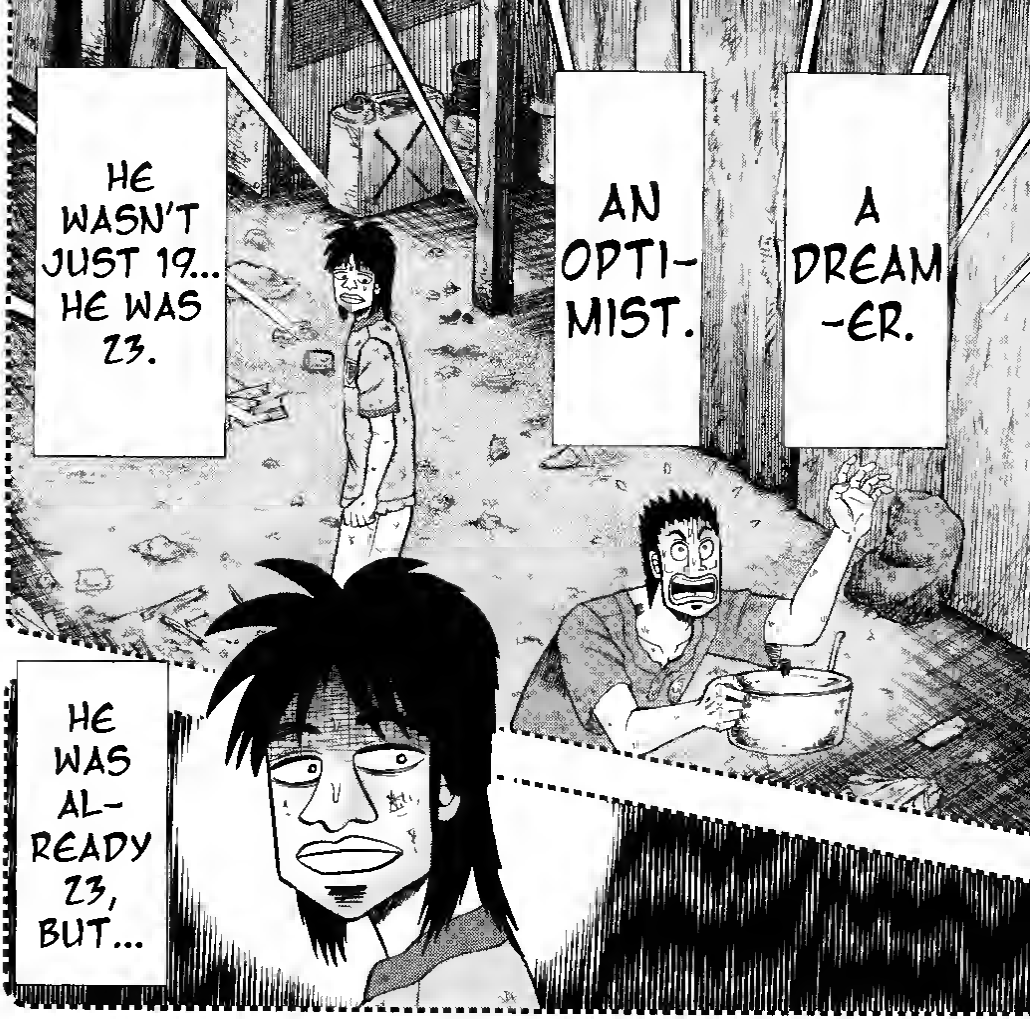
YOU MEAN..
.....

SO... WHAT DO YOU THINK GOD DOES?
HUH...?
HOW SHOULD I KNOW?
GOD...
IS THINK-ING.
HE'S THINKING ABOUT WHO TO GIVE A CHANCE TO.
AS HE WATCHES THE WORLD...
DAY IN AND DAY OUT...
GOD PROBABLY...
PROBA-BLY...

GIVES A CHANCE TO GOOD PEOPLE!

HOW CAN YOU SAY THAT WHILE SURROUND-ED BY TRASH?!
TO GOOD PEOPLE WITH PURE HEARTS!

GOD! THAT WAS A MISTAKE! MARIO DIDN'T REALLY MEAN IT!
I DID MEAN IT!
HEY!
THERE IS NO GOD!



THE MIRACLE HE TALKED ABOUT... REALLY HAPPENED!

-CHAPTER 28-
第28話 終

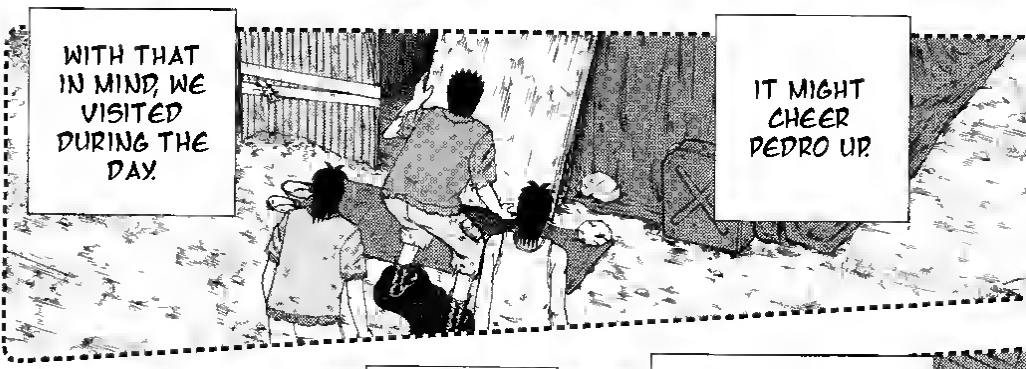
第29話「急転」

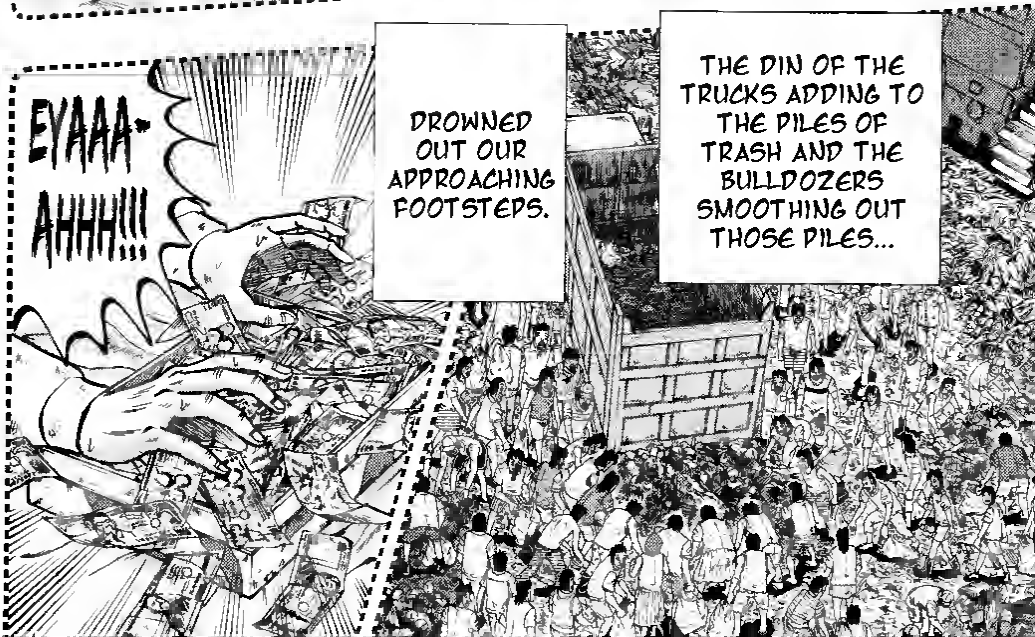
CHAPTER 29 "SUDDEN-CHANGE"

OLD MAN JOSE ...
HAD A HID-DEN ST-ASH ...
OF CASH!

FROM HIS TIME JAPAN!
THIS BURIED TREASURE WAS WHAT HE HAD SAVED UP..
IT WAS HIS TREA-SURE.
YAA-AA-AA-HH!!
150 THOUSAND PESOS! (APPROX. 300,000 JPY, OR 3,000 USD)
SO TO CHEER HIM UP..
HE WAS IN AS MUCH A DAZE AS EVER.
PEDRO WAS WAN-DERING OUT-SIDE FOR ONCE.
IT WAS LIKE AN ACCI-DENT.

IF THE OLD MAN TOLD THEM A WONDER-FUL STORY ABOUT JAPAN...
DURING THE MORN-ING, WHICH WE NEVER DID.
TO VISIT OLD MAN JOSE...
ANTO-NIO DECI-DED...


WITH THAT IN MIND, WE VISITED DURING THE DAY.
IT MIGHT CHEER PEDRO UP.


EYAAA-AHHH!!!
DROWNED OUT OUR APPROACHING FOOTSTEPS.
THE DIN OF THE TRUCKS ADDING TO THE PILES OF TRASH AND THE BULLDOZERS SMOOTHING OUT THOSE PILES...

WH-
WHAT?!
WHAT'RE YOU DOING, HERE!?
TOO SUDDEN!
THIS IS TOO SUDDEN!
HE WAS NOT JUST CHEERED UP.
UUH ...!

BOWED DOWN!
PEDRO ...
PLEASE, SIR!!
USE THAT MONEY ...
TO GIVE ME A CHANCE! PLEASE LET ME GO EARN MONEY IN A FOREIGN COUNTRY!
D-DON'T BE STU-PID!
WHAT ARE YOU SAY-ING!?
AND THEN ...

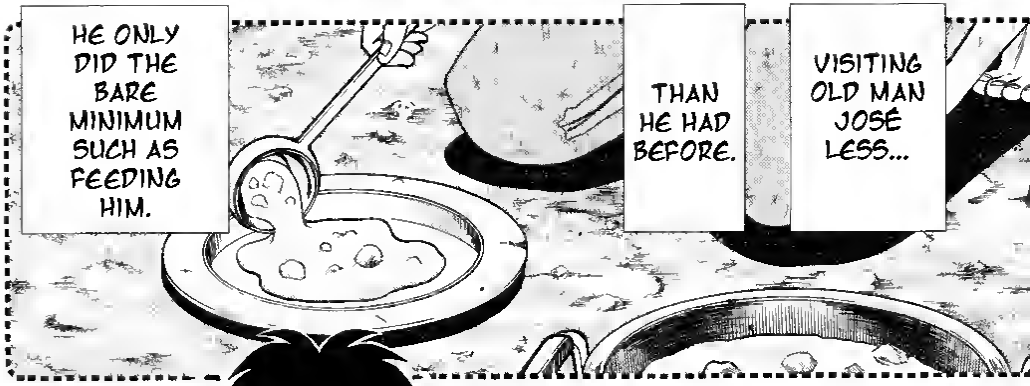
I BEG YOU!
PLEASE!
GIVE IT TO ME!
OLD MAN!!
ANTO-NIO DID, TOO!
IDI-OOO-OOTS!
THEY BEGGED HIM AT THE SAME TIME!
PLEASE!
PLEASE!
HE SAID THAT AT FIRST...
WHY WOULD I GIVE YOU MY TREA-SURE?
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING!?
YOU'RE BOTH IDIOTS!
BUT HE ACTUALLY FELT DIFFER-ENTLY.
DAMMIT, DAMMIT, DAMMIT!

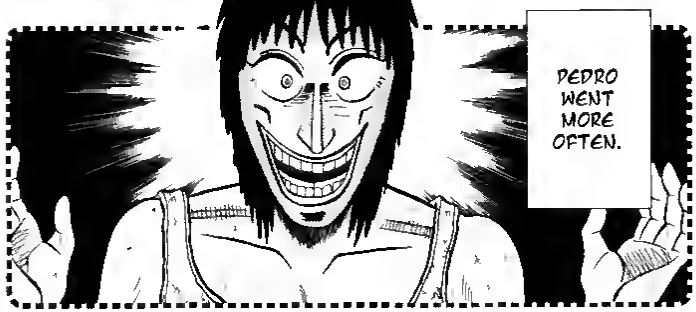
. . . . . .
EVEN WITH 150 THOUSAND PESOS, HE WOULD LIVE POORLY AS IT SLOWLY DWINDLED.
SO HE COULD NOT GATHER TRASH PROPERLY.
HIS LEGS WERE IM-PAIRED ...
DID NOT SOUND TOO BAD.
LEAVING A FUTURE FOR A TRUST-WORTHY YOUTH...
IF HIS TREASURE WAS GOING TO MELT AWAY LIKE THAT...
HE WOULD TRULY BE DOING NOTHING.
IT MAY HAVE BEEN DESTINY THAT HE HAD BEEN FOUND OUT LIKE THAT.
IN THAT WAY...
IT SEEMS HE STARTED THINKING ALONG THOSE LINES.

NNN-NNN-NGH...
PLE-EEE-ASE!
IT WAS DES-TINY!
PLE-ASE!
PLE-ASE!
THIS IS A NO-BRAINER.
IF OLD MAN JOSE ...
WAS GOING TO CHOOSE BETWEEN ANTONIO AND PEDRO...
HE WOULD OBVIOUSLY CHOOSE ANTONIO.
ANTONIO HAD NOT PREDICTED THIS WOULD HAPPEN.
HE HAD HAD NO ULTERIOR MOTIVE...
WHILE LOOKING AFTER THE OLD MAN FOR SO LONG.
THAT DEVO-TION...
AND THOSE SELFLESS ACTS WERE CLEARLY GOING TO PAY OFF HERE.
YES! THAT'S RIGHT!
IT WAS AS IF...

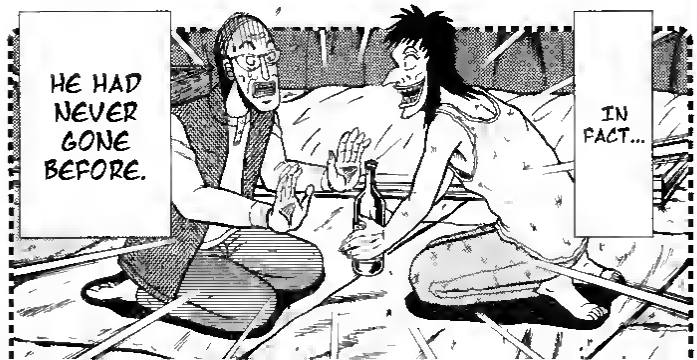
OF COURSE HE WAS!
HE WAS CONFLICTED.
BUT HE DID NOT AGREE RIGHT AWAY.
HE COULDN'T HAND IT OVER SO EASILY.
THIS WAS THE LAST OF HIS MONEY.
WE WAIT.
HE PUT OFF THE DECISION FOR ANOTHER DAY.
HE PUT IT OFF.
WE WAIT UNTIL THAT DAY!
ONE DAY, HE WILL TRULY BE WILLING TO GIVE IT TO ME.
WE CAN'T RUSH THIS.
FROM UP IN THE SKY!
GOD WAS WATCHING...

I DON'T WANT TO BE A BURDEN...
TO OLD MAN JOSE.
BECAUSE OF THE KIND OF PERSON HE WAS...
ANTONIO STARTED ...


VISITING OLD MAN JOSÉ LESS...
THAN HE HAD BEFORE.
HE ONLY DID THE BARE MINIMUM SUCH AS FEEDING HIM.


PEDRO WENT MORE OFTEN.

ON THE OTHER HAND..


IN FACT...
HE HAD NEVER GONE BEFORE.

SO HE STARTED!
HE STARTED VISITING JOSE.
THAT WAS PEDRO.
AND TALK TO HIM.
PEDRO WOULD VISIT HIM...
AND...

14 DAYS AFTER WE WITNESSED THAT TREASURE.
IT HAPPENED TWO WEEKS AFTER-WARDS...
I HAD BEEN DRINK-ING...
WITH SOME OTHERS.
SCAV-ENGERS WOULD...
SPLIT INTO VARIOUS GROUPS BASED ON WHERE THEY WOULD GATHER FROM.
I WAS DRINKING WITH A DIFFER-ENT GROUP THAT DAY.

ざわ..
THIS IS BAD!
REALLY BAD!
ON THE WAY BACK...
I LEARNED...
OF THE INCIDENT!
THIS IS BAD!
?
?
THIS IS BAD!
OLD MAN JOSÉ...
IS DEAD!
HE'S...!? DEAD?
WHA?.?
ざわ..
ざわ..
DEAD?
H'''..

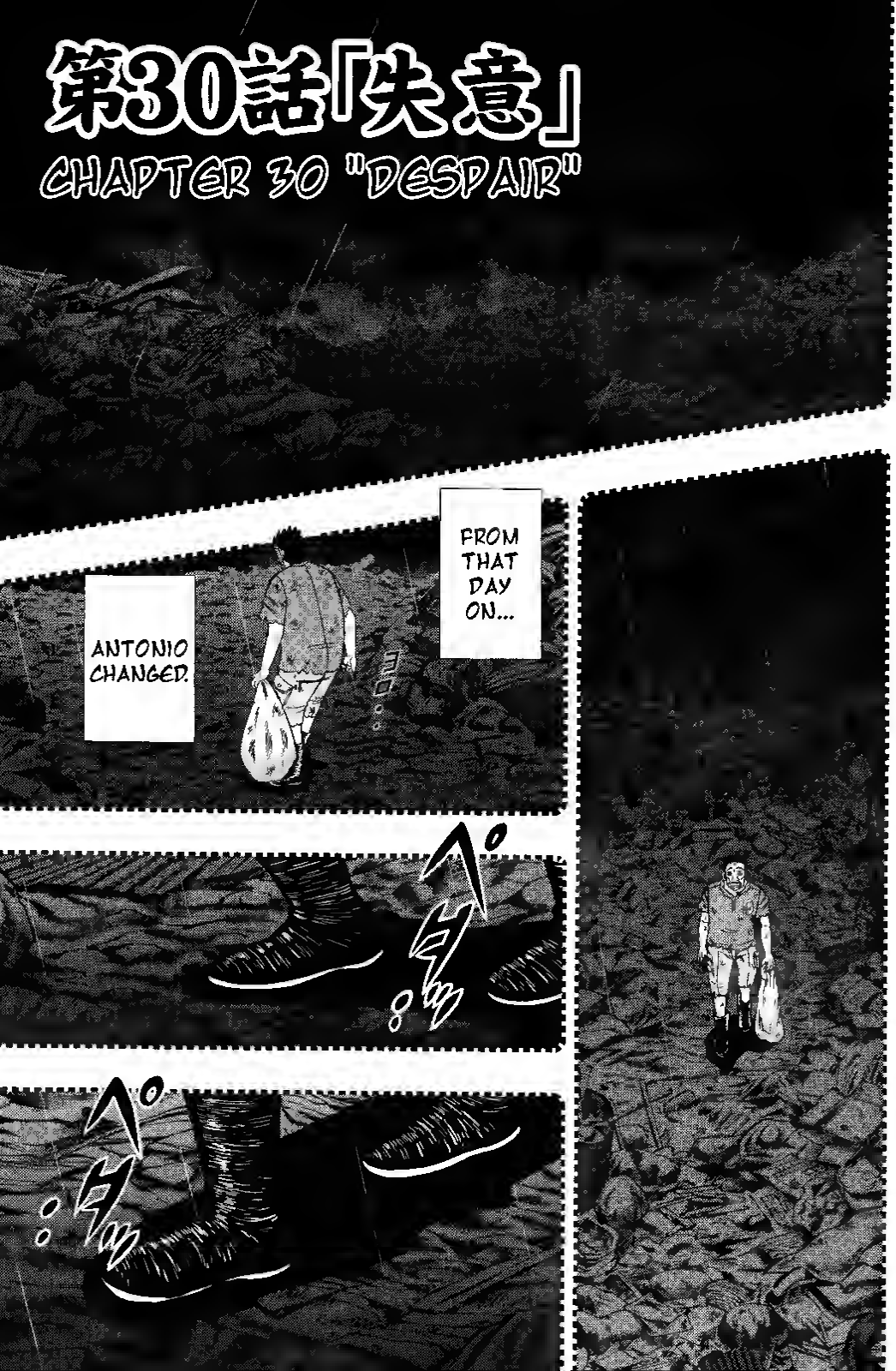
PEDRO'S GONE!
HE STOLE HIS MONEY AND RAN OFF!
HE WAS KILLED!
ざわ..
ざわ..
ざわ..
ざわ..
ざわ..
HE WAS KILLED!
HE WAS KILLED!
DEAD..
BUT THAT OLD MAN DIDN'T HAVE A SINGLE PESO!
YEAH, BUT STILL...
PEDRO HAD BEEN VISITING HIM A LOT RECENTLY!
NO ONE HAD HEARD ...
ABOUT THE MONEY WE HAD SEEN.
THERE HAD ALWAYS BEEN RUMORS THAT HE...
ACTUALLY HAD SOME SAVINGS.

IT CAN'T BE...
ヨロ〃
IT WASN'T SURPRISING THOSE RUMORS STARTED.
HE ALMOST NEVER WORKED YET WOULD OCCASIONALLY DRINK ALCOHOL.
ヨロ!
ヨロ。
IT CAN'T BE!
THIS WAS SUCH A SUDDEN TURN OF EVENTS...
IT WAS EARTH-SHAT-TERING.
HOW COULD THIS HAPPEN!?
IT CAN'T BE! IT CAN'T BE!
ヨロ。
ヨロ。
ヨロ。
AND WHAT I SAW...
I STAG-GERED ABOUT.
I WAS IN A DAZE.

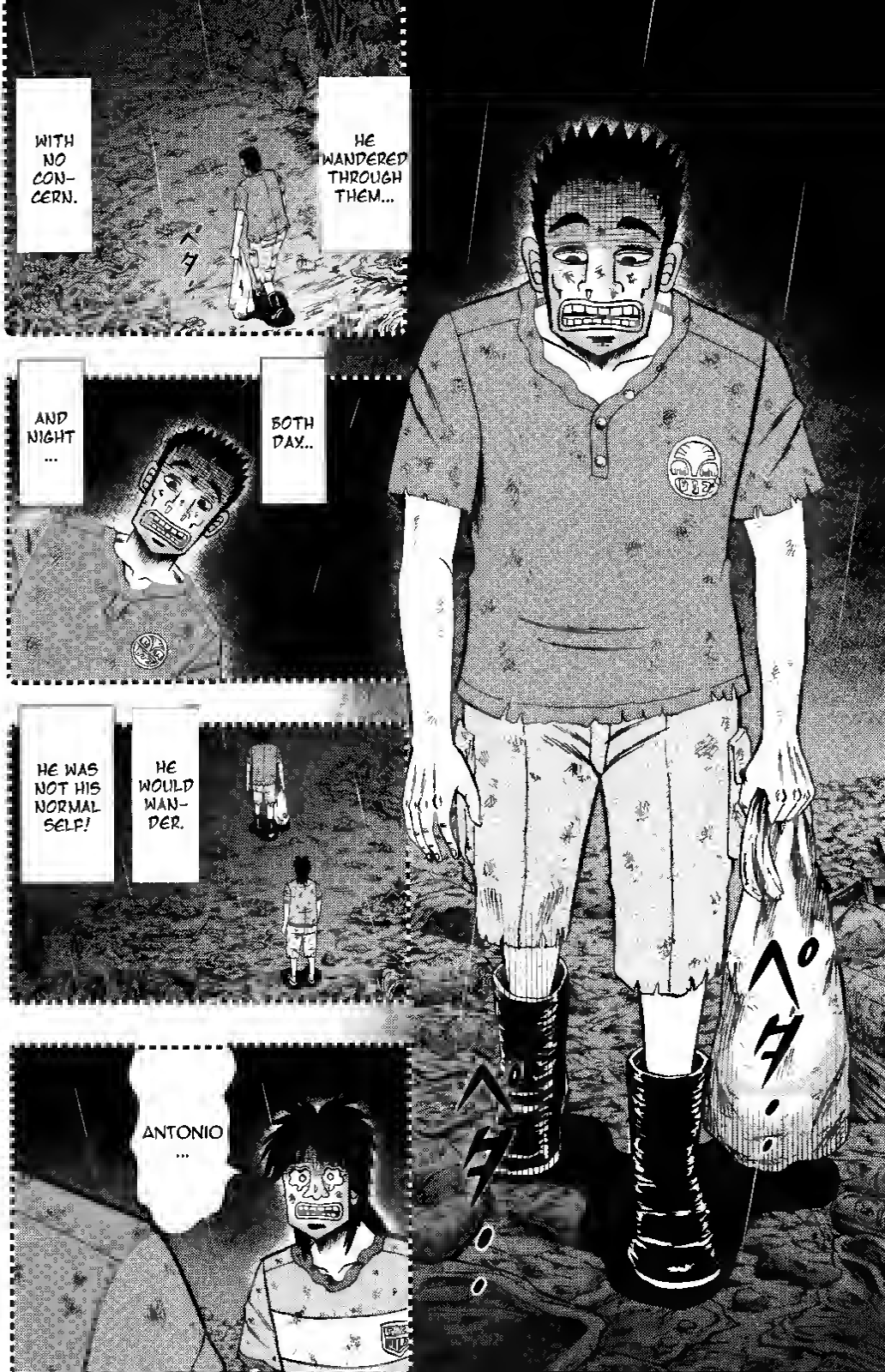
A BIT BEFORE I HAD.
HE HAD LIKELY ARRIVED..
WAS ANTONIO!
HE WAS DUMBFOUNDED!
THINKING BACK ...
ANTONIO...
WHAT WOULD HAPPEN.
WE THOUGHT WE HAD KNOWN ...
ぅ...
AND THEN ...
AND SHOWED US A BRIEF DREAM.
A GODDESS OF FORTUNE HAD APPEARED BEFORE US..
ALL TOO SUDDEN.
IT WAS SUDDEN.
ANT-ONIO!
ANTONIO ...
IT DISAPPEARED LIKE SMOKE!
ぅ...

CHAPTER 29 - FIN...
第29話 終

第30話「失意」
CHAPTER 30 "DESPAIR"



THEY HAD GLASS SHARDS AND MUD THAT WOULD SUCK IN YOUR FEET.
THE PILES OF TRASH WERE DANGER-OUS.
AND IT WAS HARD TO SEE AT NIGHT.
YOUR FOOTING WAS POOR...
THERE WERE VALLEY-LIKE AREAS...
ALSO, THE PILES COULD COLLAPSE AT ANY MOMENT.
BUT ANTONIO...
HE WOULD DO NOTHING...
BUT WALK...
BUT WALK...
BUT WALK...


WITH NO CON-CERN.
HE WANDERED THROUGH THEM...
ペタ
AND NIGHT ...
BOTH DAY...
HE WAS NOT HIS NORMAL SELF!
HE WOULD WAN-DER.
ANTONIO ...
ペタ
ペタ。。。

WHY ...?
WHY ...?
WHY ...?
NOTHING I COULD DO.
THERE WAS...
HE WOULD NOT RESPOND WHEN I TALKED TO HIM.
. . . . . .
SO I SAID NOTHING TO HIM.
AFTER ALL...
I COULD ONLY WAIT...
I COULD ONLY WAIT...

LED TO DEEP DESPAIR!
HIS GREAT HOPES HAD...
IT WAS DEEP!
HE HAD LOST HIS PEACE OF MIND!
WATCHED HIS BACK AS HE WANDERED.
SO I ONLY VAGUE-LY...
THINK-ING BACK...

WHY DIDN'T I HUG THAT BACK?
WHY DIDN'T I ASK TO HEAR THE WORRIES IN HIS HEART?
I REG-RET IT!
A FEW DAYS LATER...
AFTER ALL...
AFTER ALL...

ニィ
ニヤ
ゴゴ…
ゴ…
ゴゴ…
ゴゴ…
ゴ…
ゴゴ…
ヨロ…
WHAT I HAD FEARED FINALLY HAPPENED!

IT'S...
AN EMER-GEN-CY!!
S-SOME-ONE WAS...
BUR-IED!!
TRC HOLD
ドドドドドン
オオオォン
ドォ…ン

ANTO-NIO!!
H" H" H"
REPEATED DAYS OF RAIN HAD LOOSENED THE PILE.
WITH MACHIN-ERY AND BY HAND..
ANTO-NIO!!
WE WORKED TO DIG HIM OUT.
ANTO-NIO!
ANTO-NIO!!
ANTONIO WAS BURIED ALIVE!!
IT'S ANTONIO!

BUT HE HAD BEEN CRUSH-ED!
ロォォ
ロォォ

AS I HELD HIM IN MY ARMS
HE HAD SUFFOCATED!
I GUESSED HE HAD NOT EATEN WELL FOR THE PAST FEW DAYS.
GG-GGH-HH...!
HE WAS SO LIGHT!
WHAT... IS THIS...

IS GOING ON?!
WHAT THE HELL...
OLD MAN JOSÉ'S MONEY!
IT'S BEEN THREE WEEKS SINCE WE FOUND...
WHAT IS THIS!?
HUH?!
THREE WEEKS AND ANTONIO IS DEAD!

WHAT KIND OF LIFE IS THIS!?
WHAT KIND OF DES-TINY IS THIS!?

ANTO-NIO!!!
ANTO-NIO!
ANTO-NIO!
GH!

YAA-AAA-AAH-HHH-HHH!!
ANTO-NIO...

KHEGH!!
GRAGH!!
ドオ!!
ドゴ
ズギ!!
GAHH!
GAHH!
GAHHH!
ドゴ
ベキッ

THE FLOOR ...

HAD BEEN ENOUGH TO CRUSH THEM.
MY ANGRY PUNCH-ES...
WAS NOTHING BUT PLYWOOD OVER THE GROUND.
I RECOG-NIZED SOME-THING.
IN THAT SPACE DUG INTO THE GROUND...
IT WAS ...
WHAT?
A METAL TIN WAS BURIED THERE.
HUH ...?

THE TIN FROM BACK THEN!
IT WAS OLD MAN JOSE'S TIN!
I... IT CAN'T BE!
ドキ・ドキ・
ドキ・ドキ・

IT CAN'T BE?!

YOU'RE KIDDING ME!
UUH ...!
WHY IS OLD MAN JOSE'S MONEY...
WH-WHY IS THIS MONEY...

CHAPTER 30 - FIN...

第 30 話 終

賭博堕天録

カイジ

和也編

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あなたは、この本を読んで、どんな感想をおもちになりましたか。

編集部ではこの本についての読者のみなさまのご意見をおまちしています。

このつぎには、どんな作家のどんな漫画を読みたいとお考えですか。「ヤンマガKC」にしてほしいと思う作品がありましたら、「読後の感想」とあわせて、左記あてに、どしどしお知らせください。

〒112-8001
東京都文京区音羽2-12-21
講談社「ヤングマガジン」編集部
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（ヤングマガジン2010年第1号、第3・4合併号～第7号、第9号～第11号、第13号～第15号の掲載分を収録しました。）

N.D.C. 726　221p　19cm

ヤンマガKC——1903

賭博堕天録カイジ 和也編 ③

2010年6月4日　第1刷発行

定価はカバーに表示してあります。

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発行者　清水保雅

発行所　株式会社講談社
〒112-8001
東京都文京区音羽2-12-21
郵便番号
電話　編集部(03)5395-3461
販売部(03)5395-3608

印刷所　三晃印刷株式会社

製本所　株式会社フォーネット社

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ISBN978-4-06-361903-4　Printed in Japan

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